

Statistical News



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CHURCHILL

IN THIS ISSUE

- A New Head for the GSS
- Official Statistics in the UK: Is There Cause for Concern?
- Defence Statistics Organisation - Risk Management within the MoD
- The Home Office Offenders' Index

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It is hoped that *Statistical News* will be of service and interest not only to professional statisticians but to everybody who uses statistics. The Editor would therefore be glad to receive comments from readers on the adequacy of its scope, coverage or treatment of topics and their suggestions for improvement.

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CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Statistical News

Developments in British
Official Statistics

No. 96
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	page
A New Head for the GSS	96.5
Official Statistics in the UK: Is There Cause for Concern? by Sir Jack Hibbert	96.8
Defence Statistics Organisation - Risk Management within the MoD by Sean Whellams	96.18
The Home Office Offenders' Index by Sylvia Keith	96.23
See also in this issue	
Editor's Note	96.4

Regular Features

New surveys notified to the Survey Control Unit	96.26
Departmental listings and contact points for recently available statistical series and publications	96.30

Government Publications

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Household Food Consumption and Expenditure	96.39
Special Studies in Agricultural Economics	96.39
Oilseed Rape 1990 (Report No 17)	96.39
Pig Management Scheme Results 1991 (Report No 18)	96.39
Census of Farmed Deer	96.40

Central Statistical Office

Balance of Payments Statistics	96.40
Statutory Annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey	96.40
Regional Accounts	96.41

Pension Funds: Special Issue	96.41
CSO Bulletins	96.42

Education

Departmental Bulletins	96.42
Teachers in Service - England and Wales - 1987 and 1988	96.42
School Examinations - GCSE and GCE - England 1990	96.43
Scottish Education Statistics	96.43

Employment

British Workforce in employment	96.44
Small Firms and Enterprise	96.45

Environment

Statistical Users Council Annual Conference	96.47
Land Use Change in England: 1985-90	96.47
Scottish Office Environment	96.48

General Register Office for Scotland

Vital Statistics: Scotland	96.48
Personal Names in Scotland	96.48

Health

NHS Hospital and Community Health Services Non-Medical Staff in Post in England 1981-1990	96.49
Hospital, Public Health Medicine and Community Health Service Medical and Dental Staff	96.49

Health and Safety Executive

Health and Safety Statistics	96.50
------------------------------	-------

Home Office

Control of Immigration: Statistics - first and second quarter 1991	96.50
--	-------

Office of Manpower Economics

Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration	96.51
Pay of Professions Allied to Medicine	96.51
Pay of Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors	96.51
Armed Forces Pay	96.52
School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service	96.52

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

Population Trends	96.52
Childhood Mortality Statistics for 1989	96.53
Mortality Statistics: Cause 1990	96.54
Cigarette Smoking 1972 to 1980	96.54
Abortion Statistics 1990	96.54
Population Projections for Local Areas in England	96.54
Key Population and Vital Statistics: Local and Health Authority Areas 1990	96.54
Making a Population Estimate in England and Wales	96.55
Leisure Day Visits	96.55
Compiling the Electoral Register 1990	96.55
A review of Migration Data Sources	96.56

OFTEL

Telephone Service in 1991	96.56
---------------------------	-------

Treasury

The Statistical Supplement to the 1991 Autumn Statement	96.56
Civil Service Statistics	96.57

Other Publications

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin	96.58
--	-------

Conferences and Training

University of Warwick	96.59
-----------------------	-------

Government Statistical Service

Review of Regular Surveys	96.60
---------------------------	-------

Appointments and Changes

Senior Staff Changes	96.61
----------------------	-------

EDITOR'S NOTE

Readers may be interested that we have chosen a particularly appropriate cover for this issue. This photograph was taken from Parliament Square, towards the Central Statistical Office (CSO), at Great George Street.

In the foreground stands the statue of Sir Winston Churchill who as Prime Minister during the Second World War, requested the establishment of a Central Statistical Office.

The CSO was created in 1941 with Harry Campion as Director. Initially the CSO was set up to service the war effort but quickly became a permanent feature of government.

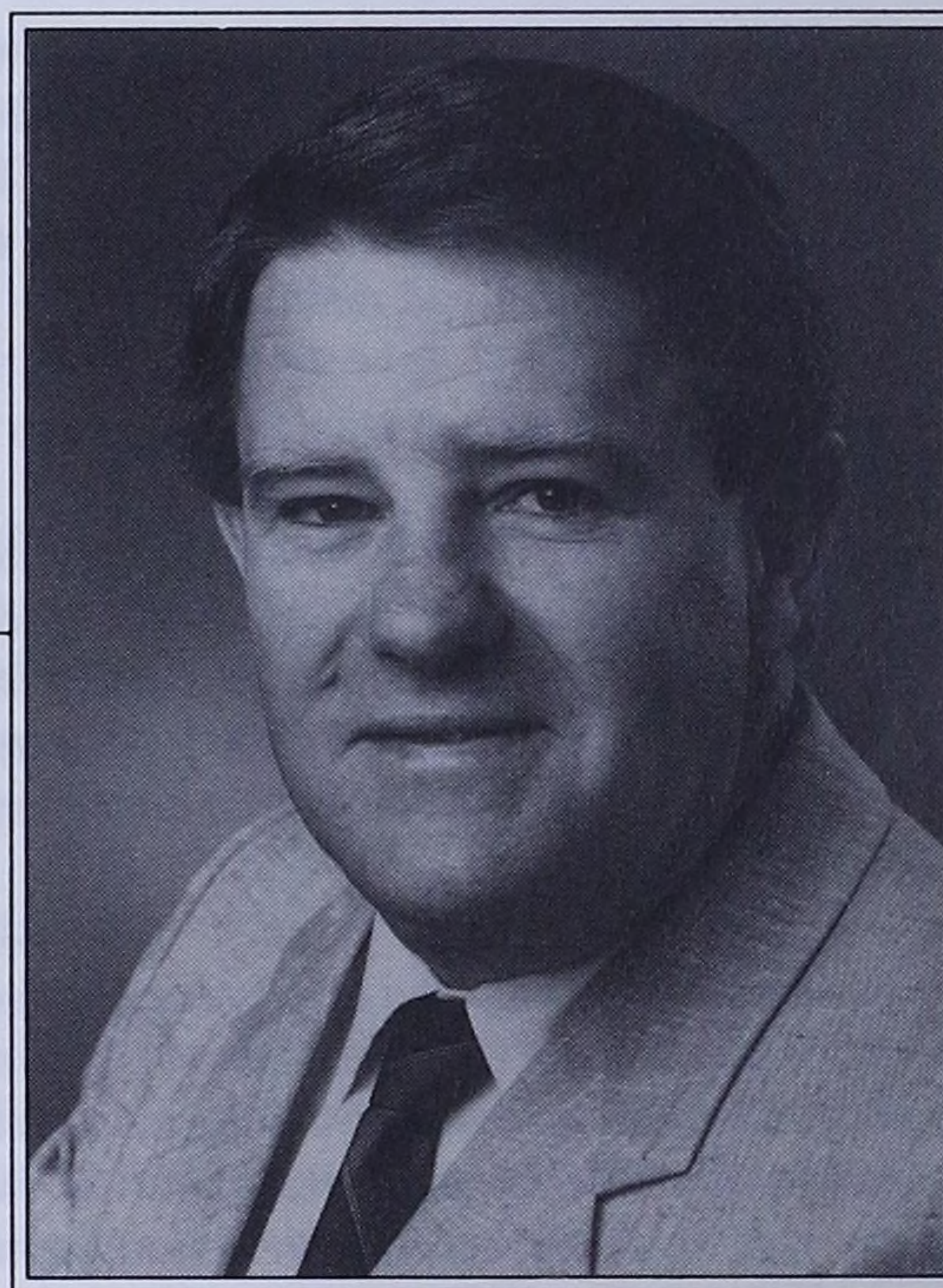
A complete history of the CSO is detailed in *Keeping Score*. Copies of this publication are available only to *Statistical News* readers at a privilege price of £5.00 net from:

The Librarian
Central Statistical Office
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633 812973 (GTN 1211)

As many readers of *Statistical News* will be aware, Sir Jack Hibbert recently retired after almost six and half years as Director of the Central Statistical Office and Head of the Government Statistical Service. His successor, Bill McLennan, took up post on 2 March as only the fifth Director of the CSO in its 51 year history. Bill McLennan was previously Deputy Australian Statistician in the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in Canberra. In this article Sir Jack Hibbert gives his personal view on a period of major change for the CSO and Bill McLennan tells us a little about himself and his approach.



Outgoing - Sir Jack Hibbert



Incoming - Bill McLennan

- Q** Sir Jack, the CSO is a very different organisation now from the one you took charge of in June 1985; can you tell us of your thoughts as you took on the mantle of Director of the CSO?
- A** When I succeeded Sir John Boreham in 1985 there was some uncertainty about the future role of the CSO and about the ways in which the GSS should develop. The report on the Rayner review of the GSS had set the main parameters for our operations but in some areas, such as macro-economic statistics, it was already becoming clear that a better quality service was needed. Developments in the European Community were beginning to affect us increasingly. My main aims were to respond constructively to this changing situation while doing what was necessary at the centre to maintain our decentralised system. There was a lack of understanding in some departments about the inter-departmental nature of GSS work, and one of my tasks was to get senior administrators in departments to appreciate this.

- Q** Sir Jack, you have dual roles, as both Director of the CSO and Head of the Government Statistical Service. What achievements would you like to be remembered for in each capacity?
- A** The two roles are not always easily distinguished. My period of office will no doubt be remembered mainly as the one in which work on compiling economic statistics was reorganised and the CSO greatly enlarged. It will also be seen as a period in which other aspects of UK official statistics came to be criticised. I would like to think that, at least in retrospect, I shall be seen as someone who was able to put these concerns and criticisms in perspective. Where the concerns have been justified I believe I have done a great deal to remedy matters; where they have been ill-founded I trust that I have always defended our position coherently and vigorously.
- Q** And what problems have you been unable to solve completely?
- A** Establishing and maintaining public confidence in official statistics clearly remains a problem to which there are no easy solutions. As an ex-head of Statistics Canada said to me recently, it is an impossible task but we have to keep working at it. The more frequent and regular the contacts we have with non-government users of statistics, including the general public, the more likely it is that confidence in us can be established and maintained.
- Q** What words of advice would you give to your successor?
- A** My successor, Bill McLennan, is a talented and experienced government statistician and I would hesitate before offering advice to him. He will bring his own ideas and methods of working to the job, and I expect the GSS to benefit from these. What I would say, however, is that he can rely upon the support of the members of the GSS in pursuing the aim of providing high quality statistical services to both government and non-government customers. And if I can help in any way to bring that about I shall be pleased to do so.
- Q** Mr McLennan, can you briefly summarise your career?
- A** I have worked in the ABS all my career. Most of the time it has been in our head office in Canberra, but for a period I was in charge of our Victoria Office in Melbourne. As you would expect, I have worked in many areas of the ABS including the methodology, survey design and operations, Parliamentary liaison, legislation, information dissemination, business register, general administration and corporate management areas. In short I am a career government statistician.
- Q** What areas of statistics have you specialised in?
- A** By training I am a mathematical statistician and within that field I have been interested in sampling and time series analysis. However, as you can see from the areas in which I have worked, these days I couldn't claim to be specialised in any one particular field of statistics.
- Q** Of which achievement in your career to date are you most proud?
- A** Over the last seven or eight years I have been actively involved in the corporate planning and strategic management of the ABS. I think this has been very successful. Many of the corporate processes, such as better management of people and information, the active marketing of statistics (in its widest sense), and the strategic management of computing are now deeply embedded in the ethos of the organisation.

Q What do you feel is the role of the government statistician?

A Government statisticians must provide reliable and useful statistics which inform analysis and decision-making by Government and other users of government statistics. We must therefore always be open about how the statistics are produced and must clearly state their limitations. Above all, government statisticians must stand firm against the suppression or misuse of the statistics they produce.

Q The Australian Bureau of Statistics is a centralised office, whereas the Government Statistical Service is largely decentralised; do you have any views on the relative strengths and weaknesses of the two systems?

A I think you are asking me what my views are of the decentralised statistical system in the UK, particularly whether I have any ideas about whether and how it might be changed. Obviously I am not in a position to comment. But I can say that I will be looking actively and closely at the operation of the GSS over the next few months, with no preconceptions and well aware of the background to the UK arrangements.

Q What message do you have for the 650 professional statisticians who work in the 30 or so departments covered by the Government Statistical Service?

A I am looking forward very much to being the head of the GSS. I realise I have a lot of learning to do and will ask the professional statisticians to bear with me during this process. I hope to meet as many of my GSS colleagues as I can and to do so as quickly as I can. And I hope I will find that they use the word 'professional' in its true sense - aiming to get every aspect of statistical work right, not just the technical.

Q Can you tell us something about yourself and your family?

A I have two children, Michael 19 and Linda 17. Michael this year will be in his second year at university studying engineering at the Australian National University, Canberra. Linda has just finished her schooling and is intending to take 12 months off before going to university to study commerce. Both children will be staying in Australia and will be living in our home in Canberra. My wife Christine is also a statistician and works with our Department of Finance, which has responsibilities similar to those of the UK Treasury. While I am in the UK she will be working in the Treasury as part of an exchange scheme between the Australian Department of Finance and the UK Treasury.

Q How do you like to spend your leisure time?

A I have been actively interested in sport all my life, having played, coached and refereed rugby union for many years, although I am no longer heavily involved. I have also played squash for many years and am still quite active. More recently I have been converted to golf, which I understand is popular in the GSS.

Q How do you and your family feel about moving to the UK?

A My wife and I are certainly looking forward to our time in the UK. We are very keen to take the opportunity during our annual leave to tour around all of the UK and Europe.



Extracts from an address given by the Head of the Government Statistical Service, Sir Jack Hibbert, to invited audiences in Ottawa, Washington and Paris in January 1992, in which he described the main sources of criticism of UK official statistics, the different types of concern expressed and what the GSS has been doing in response. Note: A complete transcript of this speech can be obtained from:

The Librarian
Central Statistical Office
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633-812973

Sources of criticism

There are four main sources of concern and criticism - first Parliament, secondly pressure groups of various kinds, thirdly statisticians and other specialist users of official statistics outside government, and finally the media.

Criticisms emanating from Parliament

The British Parliamentary processes can impinge upon official statistics in three main contexts: Parliamentary Questions, Parliamentary debates and the proceedings of Parliamentary committees. The system of Parliamentary Questions provides the opportunity for Members of Parliament to ask for statistical information, and to question Ministers about the statistical systems for which they are responsible.

Parliamentary debates provide another way in which

attention may be focused on official statistics. Sometimes a debate may be specifically concerned with statistics. In the House of Lords on 13 March last year there was a debate lasting 2½ hours on the quality of government statistics. It was an interesting debate, characterised by genuine concern over the perceived state of official statistics, the use of much colourful rhetoric and frequent use (sometimes misuse) of statistics. Its main thrust was to repeat the call for the centralisation of official statistics in an independent national statistical office, with a national statistical commission and a statistical law, as recommended by a working party of the Royal Statistical Society in the summer of 1990. *The Daily Telegraph* reported Lord Donoughue as saying that the head of the GSS should be a statistician, not a Whitehall bureaucrat. What he actually said was that its head should remain a professional statistician and not be a Whitehall bureaucrat.

The proceedings of Parliamentary committees provide another opportunity for official statistics to come under scrutiny. During the last 3 years I have given oral evidence to two of these committees - the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee (TCSC) - on five occasions. In addition we provided a great deal of documentary evidence. All the evidence, oral and written, has been published, together with the Committee's comments and recommendations.

It is interesting to note that neither of these committees made any recommendations about greater centralisation, but concentrated on specific issues relating to the quality of statistics. The PAC was concerned with the Retail Prices Index, following a report by the National Audit Office on its compilation which had been prompted by a computing error.

The investigations of the TCSC were concerned with the quality of macro-economic statistics and the Committee was particularly interested in the reasons for the perceived deterioration in these statistics. The

line of questioning pursued by some members of the Committee led to some quite bizarre places. I found myself having to explain, for example, why the savings of hidden economy workers, possibly in the form of banknotes stuffed under a mattress, though not of course measured directly, were nevertheless reflected in our estimates of total household saving. We gave evidence to this Committee on three occasions between February 1989 and October 1990. In general the Committee was very supportive of our efforts to make necessary improvements to the national accounts and its recommendations were helpful.

Criticisms from pressure groups

Turning next to pressure groups, one of the most active in criticising official statistics is the Unemployment Unit. This is an independent research and campaigning organisation, established in 1981 with the aim of promoting an awareness amongst the public, in Parliament and the media, of the problems facing the unemployed. It develops alternative policies for national and local government as well as offering consultancy services. Given its objectives it no doubt feels frustrated that it has had so little success in influencing government policy towards the unemployed. It has, however, achieved considerable success in persuading a great many people that UK statistics relating to the unemployed have been manipulated so as to mislead, and references to "30 changes of definition since 1979" have become commonplace.

Like many other countries, the UK has two main sources of information relating to the unemployed. There is a survey of households - the Labour Force Survey (LFS) - and there are the administrative systems concerned with helping people to find jobs and providing financial assistance when they are out of work. Using the LFS is more expensive, likely to yield less frequent results and to provide less local area detail than using the data available from administrative systems. Each approach has its advantages and disadvantages, and both are used.

The LFS is concerned of course, not only with the unemployed, but the other characteristics of the labour force which may be of interest. It is our only reasonably up-to-date source of information about the self-employed, and it is as much in order to im-

prove the timeliness of this and other labour market series that, beginning this year, the survey is to be carried out on a quarterly, rather than annual, basis. It will also provide more up-to-date survey-based estimates of the unemployed than have been available in the past and this is greatly to be welcomed.

The relationship between the unemployment measure derived from the LFS - in which the internationally agreed definition promulgated by the International Labour Office (ILO) is now followed - and that derived from the administrative system has been well documented by the Employment Department⁽¹⁾ whose statisticians are responsible for both sets of statistics. Although the two measures have at times been quite close, this was quite fortuitous because there are significant groups of people who are included in one measure but excluded from the other. Comparing the LFS results with those currently derived from the administrative system relating to the payment of unemployment benefits, the former includes those not entitled to such benefits, but regarded as unemployed according to the ILO definition (many of whom are people seeking part-time work), while the latter includes those entitled to benefit but not regarded as unemployed according to the ILO definition (including some actually in work but not earning enough to disqualify their entitlement to benefit). In Spring 1990, there were about 850,000 in the first group and 500,000 in the second, the difference in the size of these two groups is being reflected in the LFS and benefit claimant totals at that time of 1.87m and 1.52m respectively. Some years earlier, when both groups numbered around 750,000 the LFS and claimant figures were approximately equal, and in some years the claimant count exceeded the estimate from the LFS.

What then are the alleged 30 changes in definition that critics claim have been made to the statistics? They relate, of course, to the figures derived from administrative sources, not those from the LFS. There are various types of event which may lead to a change in the number of people included in the count without a change in their labour market status. One major administrative change made from October 1982 was the introduction of voluntary registration at Jobcentres (previously registration had been a condition of claiming benefit). This meant that the numbers registered could no longer be expected to provide a satisfactory

indicator of either the levels or changes in unemployment: in fact by October 1986 the numbers registered at Jobcentres had fallen from around 3 million in October 1982 to less than 500,000, a reduction of 2½ million, while the number of benefit claimants had risen by 200,000 over the same period. Employment Department statisticians had anticipated this effect on the registration series, and changed to using the



number of claimants from October 1982 onwards which, at that time, were some 200,000 less than the number of registrations at Jobcentres. At the same time they estimated a series on the new basis for earlier years, going back to 1971, so that valid comparisons over time could still be made. One might have thought that they would have been complimented on the steps they had taken, instead of which they have been repeatedly criticised for the change in definition, an administrative change which itself simplified the arrangements for those claiming benefit and led to substantial savings in administrative costs. It is difficult to see any justification for the criticism of what was done.

Another type of change affecting the scope of the count is, of course, when the rules for entitlement to benefit are changed. There have been a number of such changes and, where these have led to clear discontinuities in the series, we have followed the same procedure of estimating a new series back to 1971 on the basis of the latest definition of entitlement.⁽²⁾ In all there have been 8 changes for which adjustments have been made: 4 related to changes in benefit entitlement; 2 to changes of procedures; and

2 to changes in the measurement system itself. All the other alleged changes in definition have either been so insignificant that their effect is judged to have been negligible, or have not been changes in definition at all. For example, the Employment Department published an estimate of the effects of the introduction of government job creation and training schemes on the numbers of unemployed; this is said

by the Unemployment Unit to be one of the 30 changes made to the figures. Despite these facts the Unemployment Unit continue to claim that there have been 30 changes of definition designed to disguise the true level of unemployment in the UK and this myth persists. The existence of the LFS estimates is rarely ever mentioned. The compilation of the consistently defined series back to 1971, and its use as the basis for statements by Government Ministers about changes in the level of unemployment, receives little if any recognition. I can only conclude that those who continue to perpetuate the myth

do so, possibly out of ignorance, but more probably because they see it as helpful to their cause.

Criticism from statisticians and other specialist users outside government

The concern from this source you are most likely to be familiar with is the report of a working group of the Royal Statistical Society published in July 1990. This followed a discussion meeting organised by the Society in December 1989 at which I presented a short discussion paper about the conventions and practices followed in the UK aimed at maintaining public confidence in the integrity of official statistics. The main question I posed was how these might be strengthened within the largely decentralised UK system.

I have already referred to the main conclusions of the working party. Part of the difficulty with its report was that, although its recommendations were very clear, they were based on the conclusion that the present decentralised system could not provide the necessary guarantees on professional integrity. There was something very odd about this conclusion when,

for over 40 years, the decentralised system had stood us in good stead and the UK statistical service had enjoyed a high standing.

It is worthwhile considering what led members of the Society to devote their time and energies to this work. The people concerned clearly felt very strongly about these issues and were doing their best to put forward constructive suggestions to remedy matters. One very simple reason why they acted was, of course, that the criticism of official statistics though, at least initially, directed at the Government, cast a shadow over the statistical profession more generally. Members of the Society felt that action of some kind was called for. But I am sure a more compelling reason was the belief that the Government's adoption of the 'Rayner doctrine' had been a fundamental mistake against which it was important once again to speak out. The so-called Rayner doctrine stemmed from the report on the scrutiny of government statistical services carried out under the direction of Sir Derek Rayner in 1980.⁽³⁾ In the scrutiny report Rayner said "There is no more reason for the Government to act as universal provider in the statistical field than in any other" and "Information should not be collected primarily for publication; it should be collected primarily because Government needs it for its own business." Not surprisingly perhaps, this was interpreted to mean "if the Government doesn't need it for the conduct of government business, then it will not be collected or compiled".

Members of the Society had been particularly critical of this doctrine when the scrutiny report was first published because it seemed to imply that the Government did not see itself as having any general responsibility to provide official statistics on matters of public interest or concern. I shall come back later to the actual effects of this recommendation on official statistics, but simply register at this point the fact that it was perceived in this way. Put quite simply it raised the issue of whether the members of the GSS have some wider responsibility than that of simply responding to government needs. It can be seen perhaps as a similar issue to that of the responsibilities of public servants more generally, even though in the case of official statistics it clearly has some special features.

Another group I should mention is the Social Science

Forum (SSF). This group have stated very clearly that the collection and use of official statistics should be governed by three principles:

- ① Decisions about data collection should be determined by the need for an informed society as well as for the concerns of government;
- ② All statistics collected with public funds should be in the public domain;
- ③ Britain should conform to international standards.

Subject to the observation of confidentiality constraints, I have no quarrel with these three principles, but I deplore the tactics the SSF uses to press its case. In the document it issued to launch its campaign, it said in its opening paragraph "There is widespread concern about the state of official statistics in Britain today. Accusations have been made in the media, supported by the business community and leading statisticians, that statistics are doctored, misrepresented or subject to interference by governments."

According to a press report in *The Independent* newspaper a spokesman for the SSF claimed at the press conference that the Government had swept away information which reveals increasing inequality, such as the distribution of income and wealth, or the mortality rate in different social classes.

Let us consider that statement in relation to the facts. Analyses of income distribution and redistribution - that is to say the effects of taxes and benefits on different types of household - have been prepared and published annually by the CSO since the early 1960s. The latest published analysis appeared in the March 1991 edition of *Economic Trends* and a further article, based on data for 1989, is about to be published in the January 1992 edition of *Economic Trends*. The methodological basis for these analyses has been fully documented and improvements in it introduced from time to time.

Distribution of wealth estimates have been prepared and published by the Statistics Division of Inland Revenue since 1960. Over the years the work has been developed so that there are now estimates which take account of occupational and state pension rights

in addition to marketable wealth; users can see how each of the different types of wealth contributes to total personal wealth and its distribution. These estimates were published in the annual report of the Board of Inland Revenue during the 1960s and have appeared in the annual publication *Inland Revenue Statistics*, together with a description of the current underlying methodology, in every year since 1970. The estimates, relating to 1989 and earlier years, were issued towards the end of 1991. An article commenting on these estimates was published in the November 1991 edition of *Economic Trends* and reports about the latest figures appeared in at least 5 national newspapers.

Far from sweeping away analyses of mortality by social class, the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) have greatly improved these statistics by use of the Longitudinal Study which is based on a 1 per cent sample of the 1971 Population Census. Articles by Peter Goldblatt reporting this work were published in *Population Trends* in 1988 and 1989, and the report of the Longitudinal Study which contains a whole chapter on mortality was published in 1990. OPCS will be publishing decennial reviews of occupation and health, and socio-economic differences in health, based on the results of the 1991 Population Census when the figures are available in about 3 years' time.

How many other countries in the world have such a range of well established datasets in these areas? Unfortunately, the media do not seem to be interested in these facts: perhaps they are not sufficiently entertaining for their readers. They prefer to repeat unsubstantiated statements of the kind I have referred to. It is ironic that in the SSF document supporting their campaign it says "All public statements involving statistical material should be verifiable - that is the data on which they are based should be available for public scrutiny". I wish they would apply this principle to their own public statements.

Criticism by the media

Let me turn to criticisms by the media. I have made a number of references to the media from which you will have already inferred that I am not always satisfied with the way in which they do their job. But let me make my position clear. We have a very good

relationship with the specialist journalists who write reports on our figures. They come to our press briefings which are given by the statisticians responsible for compiling the figures. They get straightforward answers to their questions and we believe that they trust us.

It is the political and non-specialist journalists who are liable to give us a bad Press. How should I react to comments like that written by Padraic McGuinness in *The Australian* last January? "The scandal of UK economic statistics when it was discovered that official statistics for years had been largely worthless and often falsified", or closer to home, the description of UK official statistics by Melanie Phillips in *The Guardian* last August as "a picture of intellectual corruption". Such comments are insulting to the GSS and to me in particular. They make me very angry. The last named journalist went on to say "the problem is that actual facts about what is going on are hard to come by because the statisticians dare not speak out for fear of losing their jobs" and "even the Royal Statistical Society (RSS), which has expressed its grave concerns, cannot speak freely on this matter because it is so closely tied by membership and money to the government service". At least members of the RSS should have stopped taking seriously anything written by Melanie Phillips.

Types of criticism

I turn now from the different sources to the different types of concern which have been expressed. It is helpful to do this because often a number of quite different types of concern have been compounded in a way which has obscured the true picture.

Statistics for conduct of government business

There is no doubt that, during the 1980s, the quality of the economic statistics needed for central economic and financial management deteriorated so that they were no longer adequate for their intended purposes. But the reasons for this are in fact quite complex. My own assessment is that the deterioration reflected first a strong belief by the Government, not only that less government intervention in the economy meant that less precise statistics would suffice, but that a reduction in the form-filling burden

on businesses was a necessary condition for improved business efficiency. The deterioration also reflected a growing complexity in the economy itself, particularly in the financial services sector with the results of deregulation in 1986, to which we did not respond with sufficient speed; once again concerns about reporting burdens was an inhibiting factor. In 1981 the Rayner report, which I have already mentioned, made the Government's priorities very clear. In respect of the CSO's work on balance of payments statistics it said "North Sea oil and gas have transformed the United Kingdom balance of payments situation and altered considerably the constraints on economic policy imposed by the country's trading position. In these circumstances it is appropriate to ask whether the balance of payments accounts should strive for as detailed and as accurate a presentation as was appropriate in earlier years when the visible trade balance and the balance of payments more generally was followed avidly as an indicator of the country's economic health. At the same time, removal of exchange control has also removed the single most important source of data concerning transactions in services and of a financial nature.

Alternative accurate data sources are hard to find and the search is demanding of staff time. We think the CSO needs to reduce the emphasis it puts on this work. This is an example of an area from which the policy spotlight has shifted. Both Treasury and Bank of England users made this quite clear. The scale of resources devoted to it should therefore be reduced."

The interesting question is at what point was it first realised that this judgement, about the quality of

macro-economic statistics needed for the conduct of government business, should be re-assessed. Possibly the UK's changing position on its external current account, which by early 1987 had clearly moved into deficit, brought matters to a head. This was accompanied by uncertainty about the growing scale of cross-border capital flows, and a substantial errors and omissions item in the overseas account which grew to £14½ billion (approaching 4 per cent of GNP). It

was scarcely any wonder that people were uncertain whether in fact a current deficit really existed. It had become clear that the job of measuring capital account transactions had, once again, to be taken seriously, not only to avoid casting a dark cloud of suspicion over the current account estimates, but in order to be able to assess the UK's net external asset position about which there was now also growing uncertainty.

To cut a long story short, in the Spring of 1988 the Government set up a scrutiny of economic statistics, the Pickford scrutiny, which reported in April 1989.⁽⁴⁾ It made 31 statistical recommendations, most of which were implemented during the next 6 months, and a further 5 recommendations concerning organisation. The most important of these was to enlarge the CSO by transferring parts of the Employment Department (ED) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) statistical divisions, including the Business Statistics Office (BSO), into a new CSO which was to be a government department in its own right. The new department came into being at the end of July 1989. In May 1990 the then Chancellor, John Major, announced a programme of additional data collec-



tion and other measures which, together with the steps already taken in 1989, led to very significant improvements. A further set of improvements was announced last November when the CSO became an executive agency.

Statistics as market intelligence

One of the results of the Government's aim of reducing the burden of statistical form-filling on businesses has been to reduce significantly the amount of detailed information collected. This was cut back following the Rayner scrutiny and a decision to make further reductions was taken in 1989 by DTI Ministers shortly before the transfer to the CSO of responsibility for data collection from businesses. Contrary to the views expressed by some of our critics, these reductions in the availability of detailed business statistics played little part in the deterioration of macro-economic statistics. They were never sufficiently timely, or of sufficient scope - they related almost wholly to the sales of detailed products - to enable reliable early estimates of the macro-economic aggregates to be based on them. The reduced scope of detailed product statistics reflects UK Government policy. In many ways it is surprising that attempts by British business interests to change that policy have been so unsuccessful. Whether or not one agrees with the policy, however, it is a fact of life and of itself it does not raise any issues of statistical integrity for government statisticians. I draw a distinction here between statistics for use by businesses and those needed for the public debate of economic and social issues more generally, to which I shall return shortly.

Statistics for research

It was with the needs of researchers in mind that the Data Archive at Essex University was set up. Last year the government-funded Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) spent some £300,000 on the Archive which, together with the funding, accommodation and computing services provided by Essex University enabled it to employ a staff of 20 to meet the statistical and other information needs of researchers. The GSS deposits with the Archive a huge amount of data. The CSO alone provides more than 17,000 economic time series which are updated quarterly. In addition to the Essex Data Archive there are

several other databases available to researchers such as the National on-line Manpower Information system (NOMIS), a joint enterprise of the Employment Department and Durham University. Co-operation between the GSS and the research community is very well illustrated by the consultation which took place for last year's Population Census. When cases for topics to be included in the Census were being considered, the ESRC carried out a survey of academic census users, in consultation with the Census Offices, and from this made eighteen proposals. Thirteen were adopted in full and others in part.

Another need registered during this exercise was that for samples of anonymised records (SARs). In close discussion with the Census Offices, the ESRC subsequently put together a detailed proposal for two SARs which has now been accepted. This is a significant new development in the use of Census results and will give researchers in academic and other fields a valuable new data set for statistical work. You might well say, of course, that the UK is simply catching up - very belatedly - with the standards taken for granted in other developed countries. I would simply note that SARs were not produced in the UK during the halcyon days of the 70s, but have been at a time when critics claim that the services to researchers are being run down.

Statistics for the public debate of economic and social issues

A fourth type of criticism is that the Government is failing to provide the statistics needed in a Parliamentary democracy for the public debate of economic and social issues. This tends to be directed, not against particular gaps in what is available, but against what I have already referred to as the Rayner doc-



trine. In practice, I can think of no obvious examples of official statistics relating to issues of public concern which have been discontinued as a result of the so-called Rayner doctrine. As I trust I have already demonstrated, accusations that the Government has swept away statistics on the distribution of income and wealth or analyses of mortality by social class are entirely without foundation. The CSO publication *Social Trends* has continued to appear each year with a wealth of information about the state of British society. The CSO's other long standing compendia and specialist publications have all been maintained and new ones added. In addition, there are more than 250 statistical publications issued by other government departments. And last, but by no means least, the system of Parliamentary Questions is used to obtain information; in the last Parliamentary year some 4,500 questions were answered providing statistical information ranging from the examination results of pupils in state schools, or road fatalities in London, to the number of housing starts and completions in Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow and Aberdeen for each year since 1975. I suggest that the UK system is in fact extremely effective in providing statistics for the debate of economic and social issues.

Vulnerability to political interference

A fifth criticism is that our system is vulnerable to political interference. This was one of the conclusions of the RSS working group in spite of the fact that they were at pains to point out they had "no evidence that, under the leadership of the present Head of the GSS and his predecessors, individual government statisticians operate to anything less than the best professional standards".

It is perhaps difficult for you to understand why - given that most other countries have an official statistical system based on a Statistical Law (or Laws) - the British should be so reluctant to contemplate the creation of a similar system. It is interesting to note that a recent Labour party document entitled *Made in Britain* said that "they will make the Central Statistical Office completely independent and free from political interference with a legal responsibility to provide honest information about the state of the British economy". This statement indicates that there would be a statistical law governing the CSO's provision of statistics about the British economy. If

such a development were to take place, it would clearly provide a defence to the charge of political vulnerability, and perhaps that should be a sufficient reason for taking such a step. But would it yield better statistics? Personally, I very much doubt it.

Another mechanism which has been proposed in order to guard against the dangers of political interference is a National Statistical Commission. I can see some advantages in having such a body but in terms of providing us with advice it would seem to me potentially unwieldy, particularly in comparison with our present system of over 30 specialised advisory committees. In setting up the CSO as an executive agency provision has been made for a new advisory committee which will be concerned with the department's work, and to which we are about to invite prospective members. Within the UK context, I see well-informed specialist advisory committees of this kind as likely to be much more effective than a National Statistical Commission in helping to develop useful statistics for government, business, researchers and society more generally.

Methodological adequacy

Finally, there is the criticism that the methodology underlying UK official statistics is inadequate, or that the GSS is failing to take advantage of technical developments elsewhere. This criticism was made most explicitly in the report of the RSS working group.

Whether the acknowledged deficiencies in macro-economic statistics should be seen as methodological inadequacies is a moot point. As I explained, my view is that they arose because of a misjudgment about the quality of service required, and a degree of concern about the burdens on business of data collection which greatly inhibited any attempt to improve the service by collecting more data. That situation has been remedied. And remedied, I believe, in a way which will give us far more reliable early estimates of movements in the macro-economic aggregates than we have had at any time in the past.

I would not claim that the UK is at the forefront of methodological development in all its work, though in some areas I would argue that we are, but I do say that to see the GSS as lacking in concern about such

matters, or uninterested in what is happening in other countries, would be a serious misjudgment of us.

Action taken and developments in prospect

The reorganisation of responsibility for economic statistics following the Pickford scrutiny was put in place at the end of July 1989. Even before this, we had got three important developments under way. We prepared the ground so that a new monthly manufacturers' sales inquiry, specifically designed to meet the needs of the monthly index of production, could be introduced straightaway by the new CSO; the planning of a benchmark share register survey for the end of 1989⁽⁵⁾ was started; and work began on the development of an interdepartmental integrated business register (first recommended as long ago as 1967). After implementing the statistical recommendations of the Pickford scrutiny, two sets of further improvements - mainly in the form of additional data collection - were announced in May 1990⁽⁶⁾ and November 1991⁽⁷⁾. The benefits of these improvements are already coming through. The CSO's aims, objectives and operating principles are now set out in its Framework Document as an executive agency⁽⁸⁾.

On the issue of government providing businesses with statistics for market intelligence the debate continues. An EC Regulation which recently became law requires member states from 1993 to collect detailed product statistics from manufacturers. This is so far a requirement primarily for annual data which seems hardly likely to be sufficiently frequent or timely as market intelligence.

The provision of official statistics for research through the Essex Data Archive may need to be reviewed. It does not appear at present to meet fully the demands of researchers in the way that was intended. Perhaps the demands are just insatiable. But as I have already indicated, it will remain one of the objectives of the GSS to help researchers with their statistical needs. We shall seek to strengthen our links with the academic world.

And finally, we now have in the CSO a research development and evaluation branch with greater resources to devote to methodological development than at any time in the past. It has, of course, in

conjunction with the subject matter statisticians, been heavily involved in the design of the new inquiries introduced as a result of the May 1990 initiative, and those to be introduced following the November 1991 initiative. But it is also examining, in a systematic way that has not been attempted before, the characteristics of statistical errors in the national accounts and balance of payments estimation systems. We certainly intend to draw on other countries' work of this kind, particularly that relating to non-sampling error, and share our experience with others as we build it up.

Summary and conclusions

What lessons have we learned? The most obvious is that we can never take public confidence in us and our work for granted. It is a fragile flower which has to be tended constantly. I would mention two other lessons which I see as inter-related. The first is the importance of not expecting too much from the lay users of statistics when it comes to dealing with statistical error and uncertainty. As we all know, there are enormous difficulties here which extend even to the understanding of quite simple concepts. Even basic arithmetic seems to baffle some people. My local newspaper recently reported that three-quarters of our local police force work 8 hour shifts while the other third is off duty.

In the light of such basic mistakes or misunderstandings, it may be something of a lost cause to try to get people to understand that estimates of the balance between two large aggregates are subject to what may seem to be unreasonably wide margins of error. The UK's net balance on invisibles is a good example; the latest quarterly estimate of a surplus of £1 billion for the third quarter of 1991, reflected estimated credits of £29 billion and debits of £28 billion. 90 per cent confidence limits for the balance might be around plus or minus £1 billion, but this is a difficult message to get across, particularly as the balance is much the same as it was 10 years ago when the margin of error was significantly smaller because credits and debits were running at less than half the current levels.

The second lesson is that we should never forget the quality of our product will rarely be as good as users would wish it to be. The uncritical quest for up-to-date information can all too easily lead to data which

may be too unreliable for its intended purpose or, even if measured accurately, be of little relevance to the issue under consideration. There are no simple answers to these problems, of course, but I believe there are some useful guiding principles, some of which may have been neglected. We all need to stand firm against pressures to make bricks without straw, or to attach too much significance to data simply because it happens to be readily available. We need to take the greatest possible care with the presentation of our work, tailoring it wherever possible to particular audiences. We need to establish as clearly as possible the levels of reliability we are aiming to achieve and try to make sure these targets are understood and accepted.

What are my thoughts as I leave the job and how do I view the future? In many ways I am sorry to be retiring as I feel we have achieved a great deal, particularly in the last 3 years, and it would be good to be there when the results of all this hard work come fully to fruition. I do not feel it would be unfair to claim that we have in fact put into practice during this recent period many of the things which, in the past, others have talked about but not actually managed to put into effect. The reorganisation bringing together the CSO and BSO into a single department and the work on setting up an interdepartmental business register, rather than simply saying it would be a good idea, are two examples of what I have in mind. Looking to the future, a particularly important factor which I have not mentioned in my talk is UK membership of the European Communities. I expect EC developments to occupy an increasing part of my successor's time. The economic and political developments in the EC can themselves affect our statistical systems very radically, as the prospect of the Single Internal Market from the beginning of 1993 has already demonstrated. The results of this in the context of intra-EC trade statistics, for example, are to require fundamental changes in the system of collection with implications for the scope and quality of statistics likely to be available in the future. Assuming that the plans for Economic and Monetary Union come to fruition, there will be changes to the range and type of statistics needed, while political developments may well lead to changes in the organisation of national statistical work within the Community.

It may be many years before much of this comes to pass. As I am by nature both an optimist and a realist, I believe on the one hand that we can benefit from our experience in the 80s, recognising that some criticism of us is well-founded and relevant; one could say that responding constructively to this is what our work is all about. On the other hand, I do not imagine that those who find it convenient or profitable to do so will cease to denigrate us. I hope, however, that those who have a serious interest in our work will look at the facts rather than taking at face value reports of the kind I have spoken of today.

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Defence Statistics Organisation - Risk Management within the MoD



By Sean Whellams (formerly Statistician in GF (Stats)3 MoD, now Inland Revenue)

Summary

How often are projects late and what is the likelihood of them costing more than they should? With some 40 per cent of the defence budget (around £8 billion per year) being spent on equipment and such failures as Nimrod AEW to haunt them, the Ministry of Defence is giving the highest priority to a structured approach to the management and control of risk which is called The Risk Management Initiative.

The MoD has developed a policy covering the methodology and techniques which should be adopted when conducting risk management. Whilst this process advocates a structured approach, the underlying message is for the project manager to think about the risks in his project and how he can manage them.

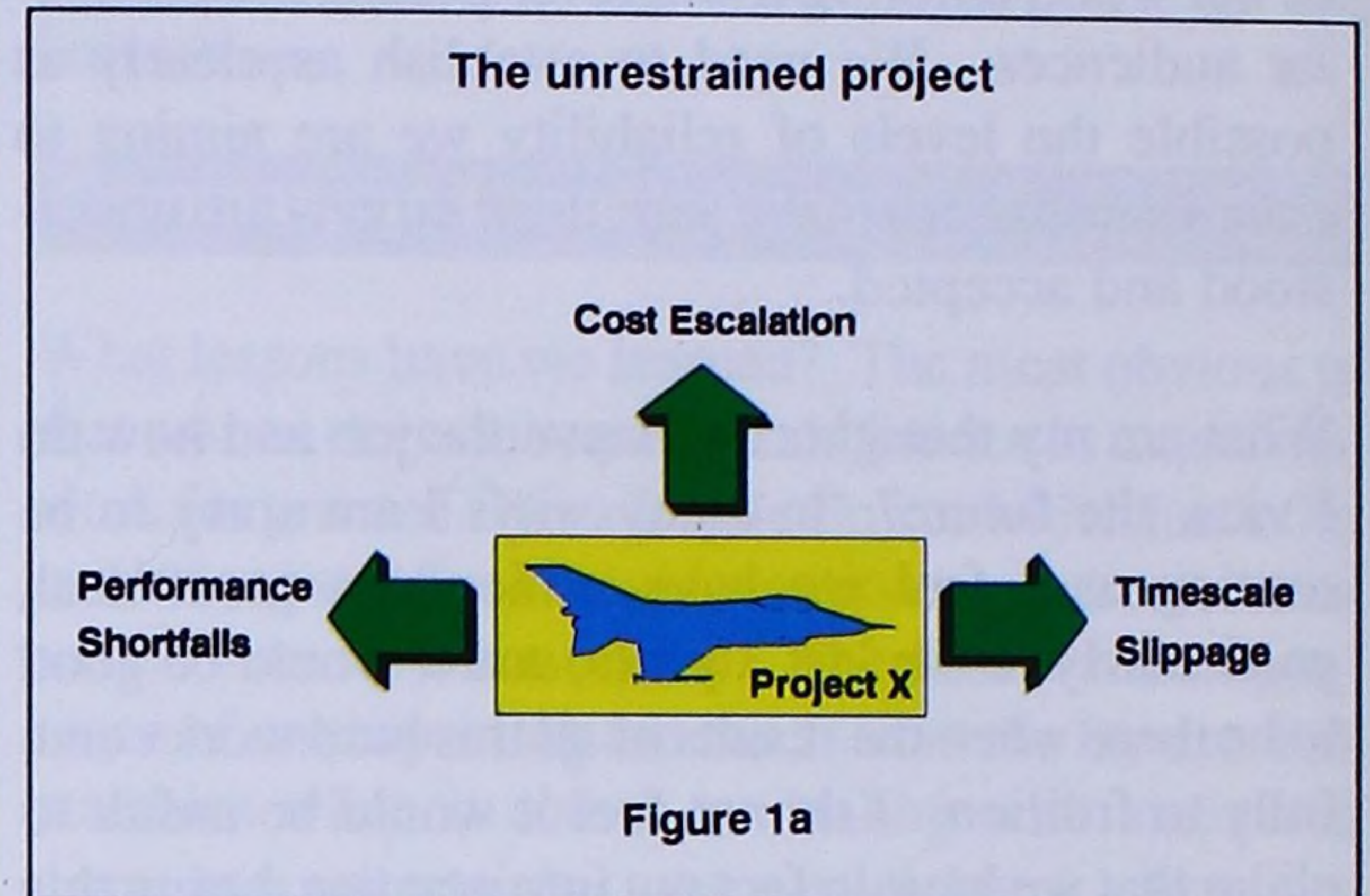
This paper summarises some of the steps the MoD Procurement Executive are taking in the process known as risk management and discusses some aspects of the statistical modelling and problems associated with attempting to model reality, in the hope that it may be of some interest and use to others.

The Defence Statistics Organisation (DSO) contains about 150 staff, 25 of which are professional statisticians. They cover many different areas from forecasting the numbers of soldiers in the army to the production of statistics on the levels of defence research and development expenditure. The risk analysis section is a small cell which provides support directly to MoD project managers and the Procurement Executive. Nevertheless risk management technique is an important tool in the armoury of the DSO and its use is likely to grow.

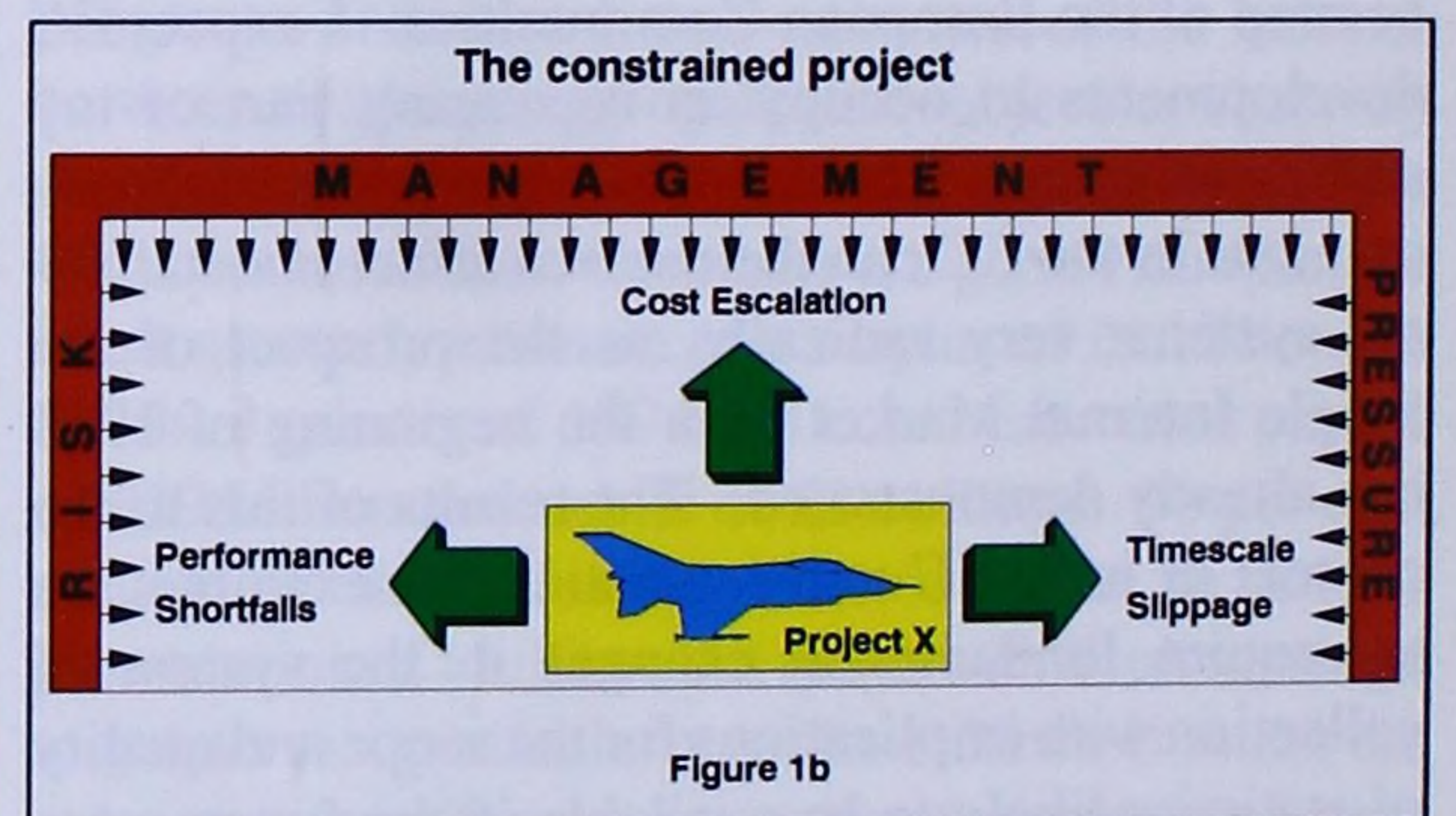
Introduction

The field of defence is littered with projects which do not work effectively, were produced late and cost

considerably more than was initially expected. It is not just a problem limited to defence, Murphy's law states that anything that can go wrong will.



The term risk in this context is a product of the likelihood of an adverse event occurring and the resulting damage or impact which that event imparts. There are three main indicators, performance, cost and timescale, which a project manager must seek to control.



The pressures on these indicators are shown in Figure 1a.

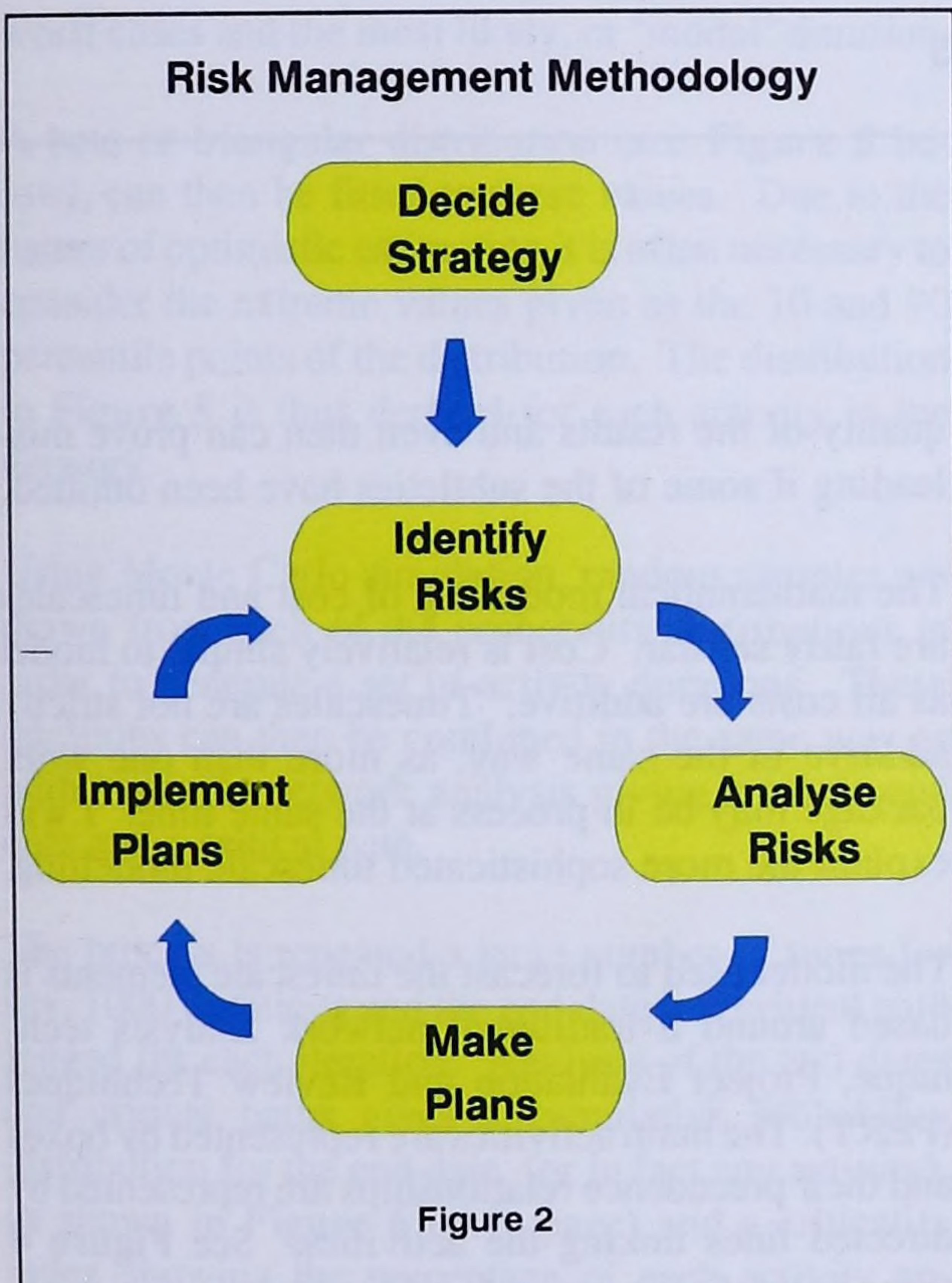
Figure 1b. demonstrates the constraining effect of risk management.

Risk management is not a new subject, it is simply 'good project management' which like any explicitly stated management technique is based around common sense. Risk management is simply a structured approach to the management and control of the risks involved with a programme.

By using this technique, we hope to improve the likelihood of our projects performing closer to the required specification, cost and timescale. However, even if things are not progressing according to plan, risk management helps to highlight perceived problems and assesses their consequences in order for alternative plans to be invoked in a timely manner.

The Risk Management Methodology

The risk management process is a cyclical one which is shown in **Figure 2**.



Procurement Strategy

The first stage in any project must be to consider the level of risk one is prepared to accept. We must all take risks, (otherwise we would not get out of bed in the morning) but there is a sensible limit, which should be stated at the outset in order to protect the project manager.

Risk Identification

The identification phase, is where the project manager gains a fuller understanding of the project and identifies what might go wrong. Both historical data (where available) and subjective assessments are useful in order to obtain the breadth of opinion required.

The subjective assessments can be obtained from a 'brain storming' session or by individual interviewing. A questionnaire (available from the author) is useful in structuring this approach.

Risk Analysis

The analysis phase is important in order to gain an understanding of how the low level risks combine to affect the programme as a whole.

This can be done at two levels, firstly and most simply in qualitative terms as demonstrated in **Figure 3** (over page). But, note that it is necessary to define what is meant by each category, for example the term medium impact might mean a most likely slip to the programme of between 3 to 6 months, or an overspend of £50k to £100k.

Secondly, a more sophisticated process is to model by means of a stochastic network, as described in the Mathematical modelling section over page.

A PROBABILITY VERSUS IMPACT DIAGRAM

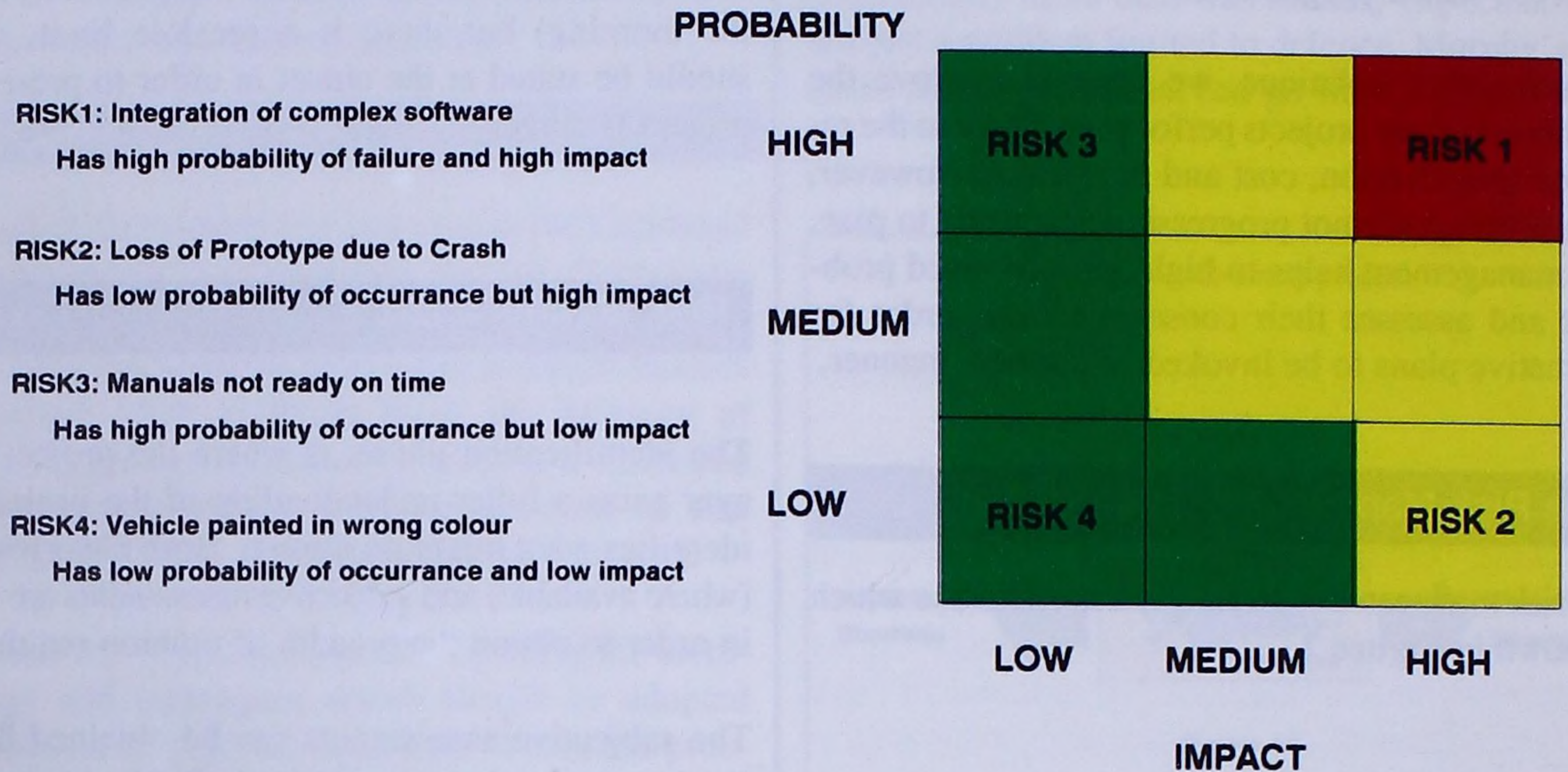


Figure 3

Planning and Management

The planning phase follows where the results of the analysis are studied and plans are made in order to minimise the likely impact on the programme. These plans are called (a) risk reduction strategies, in the case of attempting to minimise the likelihood of a future event occurring or (b) fallback plans which are alternative options made available in the case where the adverse event actually happens.

The management phase is simply the phase of further monitoring and control. This might involve looping back to the identification phase, as the whole process is dynamic

Mathematical Modelling

Mathematical models attempt to approximate reality and as such should all carry a *government health warning*. Thus the quality of the inputs affect the

quality of the results and even then can prove misleading if some of the subtleties have been omitted.

The mathematical modelling of cost and timescales are fairly similar. Cost is relatively simple to model as all costs are additive. Timescales are not strictly additive in the same way, as more than one work package may be in process at the same time. I will explain the more sophisticated timescale modelling.

The model used to forecast the timescale elements is based around a traditional network analysis technique, Project Evaluation and Review Techniques (PERT). The main activities are represented by boxes and their precedence relationships are represented by directed lines linking the activities. See Figure 4 (over page) for an example of network.

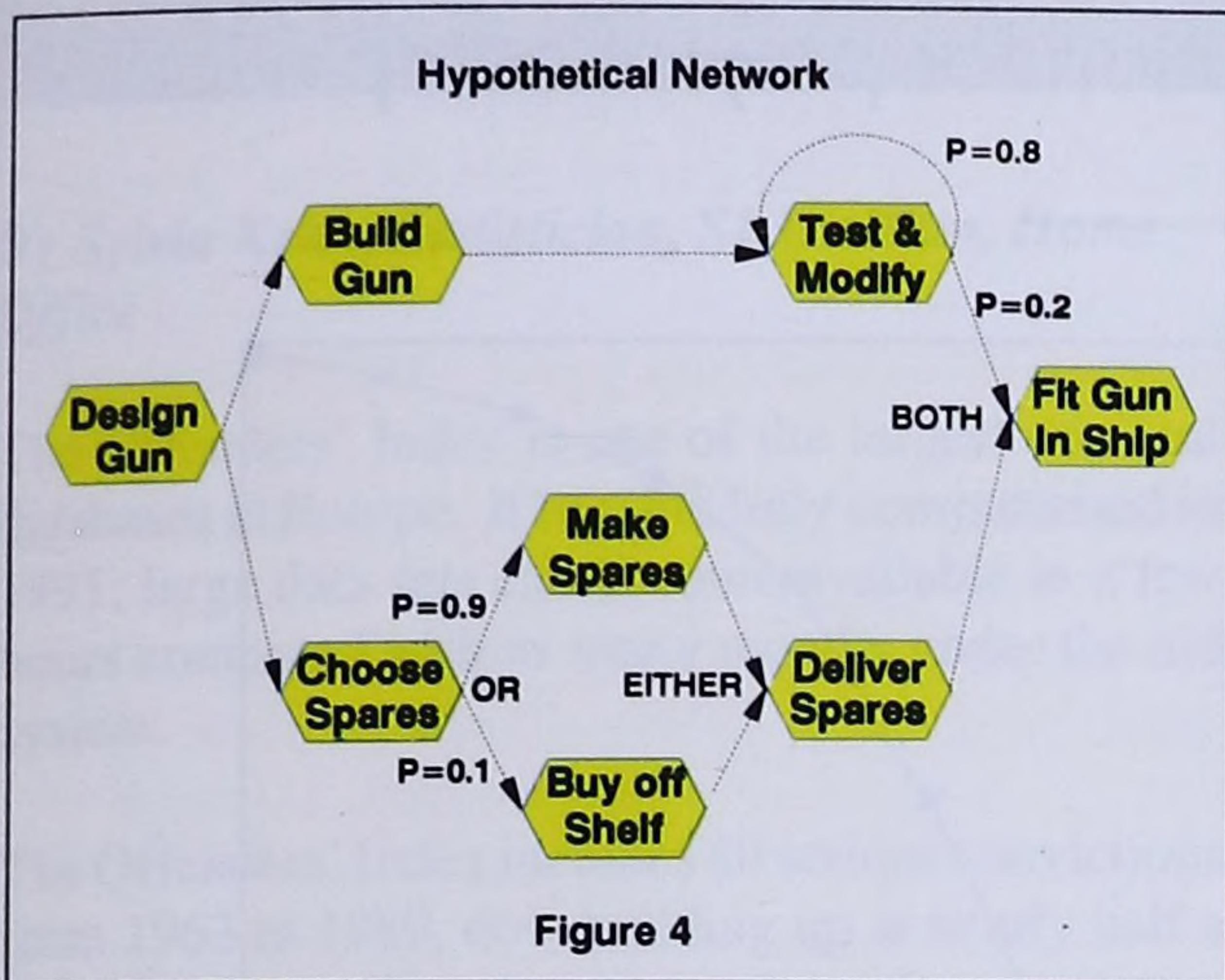


Figure 4

For each activity on the network a distribution is derived representing the associated range of uncertainty. Assuming that there is insufficient historical data available, a three point estimate is used to define the distribution. The three points are the best and worst cases and the most likely, or 'modal' duration.

A beta or triangular distribution (see Figure 5 below), can then be fitted to these values. Due to the nature of optimistic estimating it is often necessary to consider the extreme values given as the 10 and 90 percentile points of the distribution. The distribution in Figure 5 is thus derived for each activity in the network.

Using Monte Carlo simulation, random samples are drawn from each of the probability distributions in order to generate a set of activity durations. These durations can then be combined in the same way as with a simple network analysis giving a single end date and a critical path.

The process is repeated a large number of times for say, 1000 iterations and the end date and critical path logged for each iteration. Analysis of the end dates and critical paths gives a cumulative probability distribution for the end date, (or in fact any activity), as shown in Figure 6 (over page) and a criticality index showing the percentage of each activity appearing on the critical path.

Also, as Figure 4 demonstrates the model should be able to cater for probabilistic branching where certain paths are not always taken, and loop backs after a failure of a test. Not making allowance for this can result in a considerable understatement of the range of possible outcomes.

Another factor which is important to include is that of correlation between activities. In addition to the precedence relationships, there may be reason to believe that the duration of one activity may be related to others.

For example, if there are a number of activities all being performed by the same person, then it would seem reasonable to expect that if he is well motivated or good at his job, then all of the activities with him involved will complete on the early side.

If there are more than three or four activities in the critical path, omitting correlation can mean that the 'swings and roundabouts' effect will allow a high number from one distribution to offset a low number from another. This will have the effect of narrowing the spread of outcomes.

Normal practice is to correlate all of the activities together and call this a dependent run and compare the results with an independent run. The answer will lie between the two.

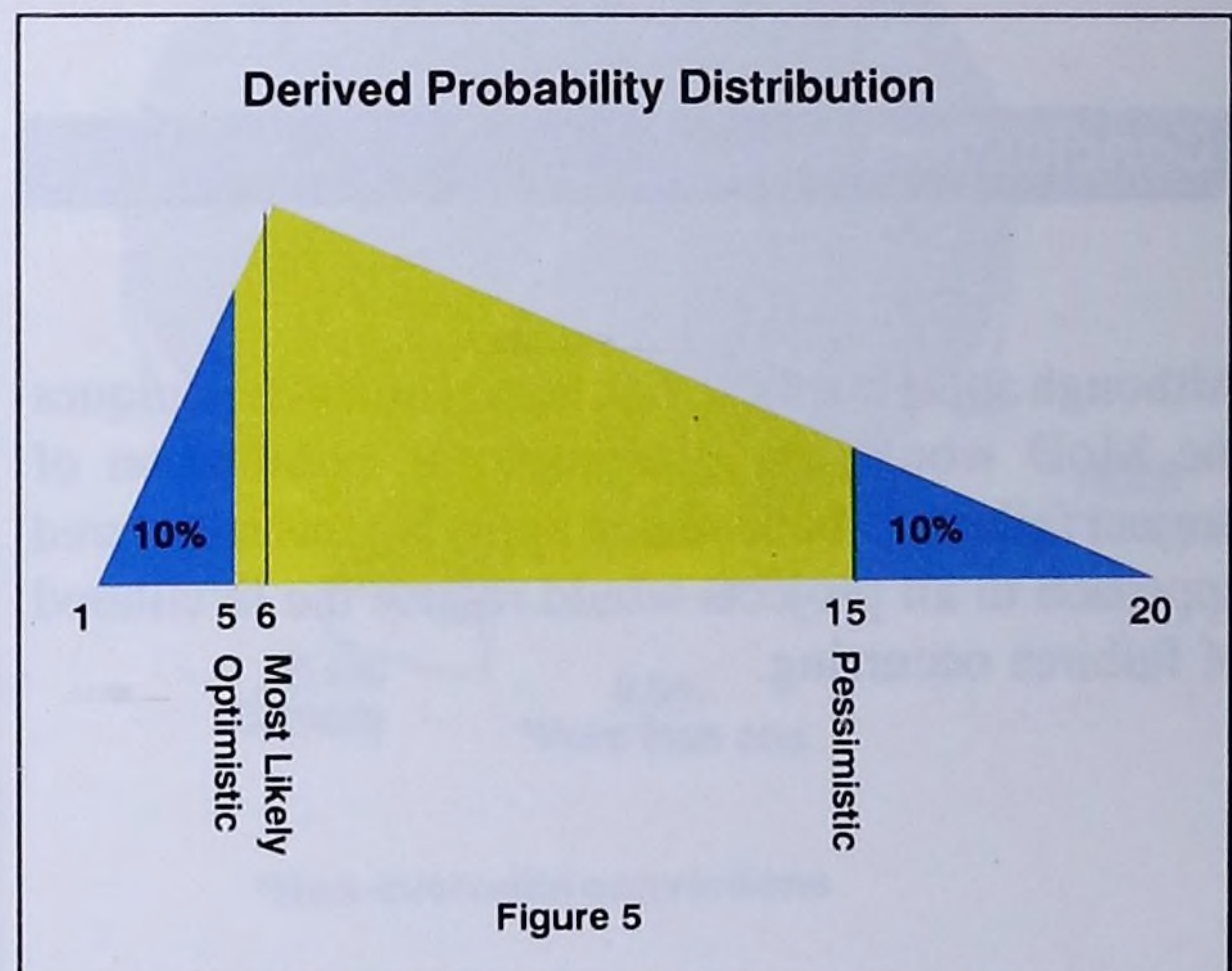


Figure 5

Cumulative probability distribution for project completion

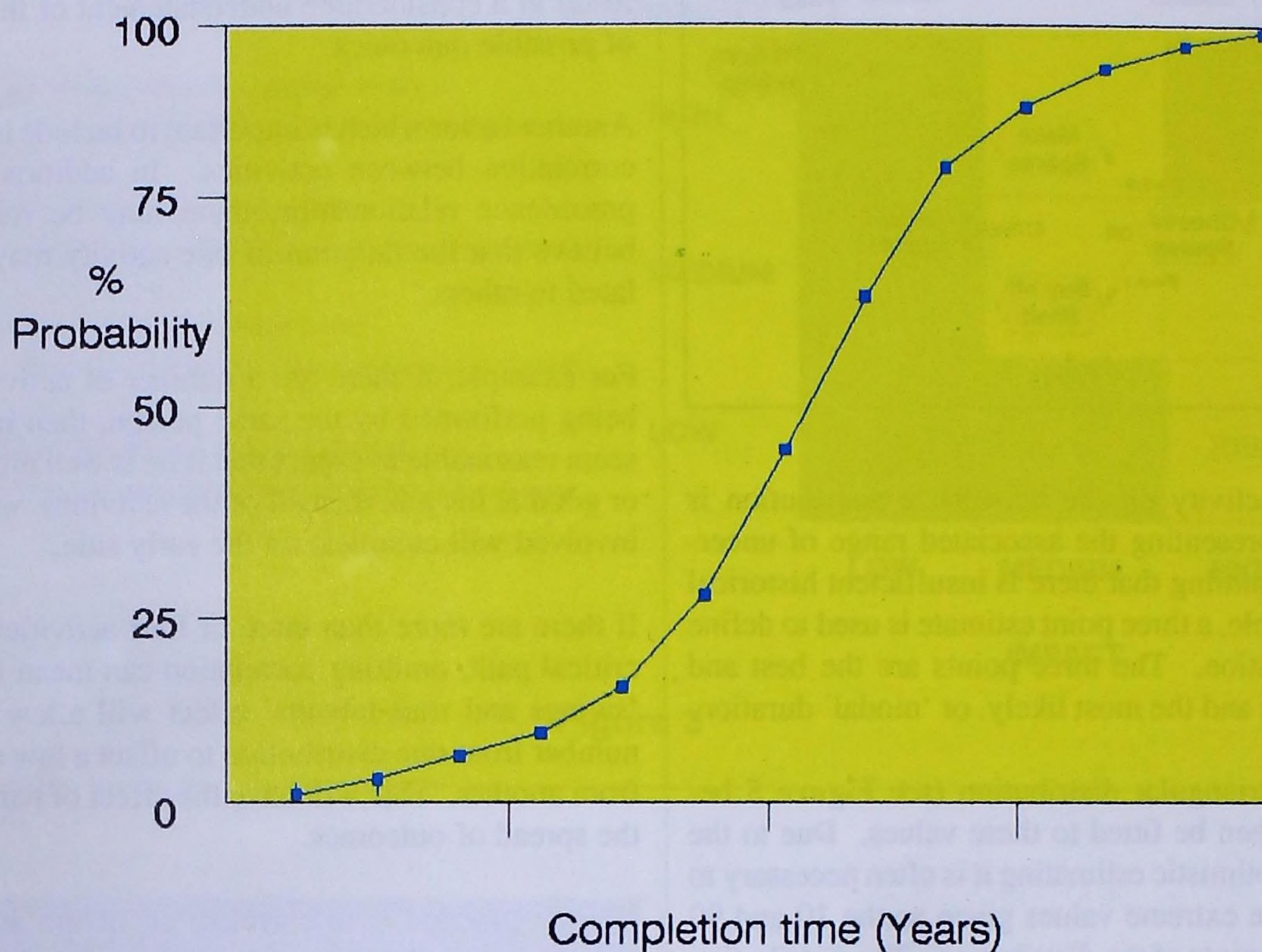


Figure 6

Conclusions

Although applying these risk management techniques the MoD would not guarantee the elimination of project failures, I believe that applying this structured approach to all projects would reduce the likelihood of failures occurring.

The Risk Management initiative therefore represents a turning point in the MoD Procurement Executive's method of management and will hopefully demonstrate the benefit of applying decision support techniques in the cut-throat business of defence procurement.



By Sylvia Keith, Statistician, S1 Division, Home Office

The Offenders' Index is one of the largest criminal databases in Europe. It became fully computerised in 1991; large data sets can become available in a few hours compared with as many months under the old system.

The Offenders' Index includes all serious convictions from 1963 to 1989, now building up at nearly half a million a year. (This data stems from the even larger Court Appearance System). Each record includes identifying details, name, initials, gender, date of birth and, sometimes, CRO number. This ID material is automatically matched to produce some six million individual's criminal histories, including the offence(s) and sentence(s), with length or cost, as appropriate (Appendix 1). Samples are drawn either from Index factors or externally, using a list of names; the latter system can incorporate other data (eg socio-economic variables). Some form of manual intervention is needed for about 20 per cent of cases which are not able to be matched by computer.

The Index yields Janus-type surveys, that is, those which look both into the past and future. If one takes a sample of offenders from a recent year, say 1986 or 1987, their past history can be traced back to 1963 and any reconvictions up to the end of 1989 identified. The Index is used to provide the details of a sample of prisoners released, including reconvictions within 2 years, published annually in *Prison Statistics*, Chapter 9.

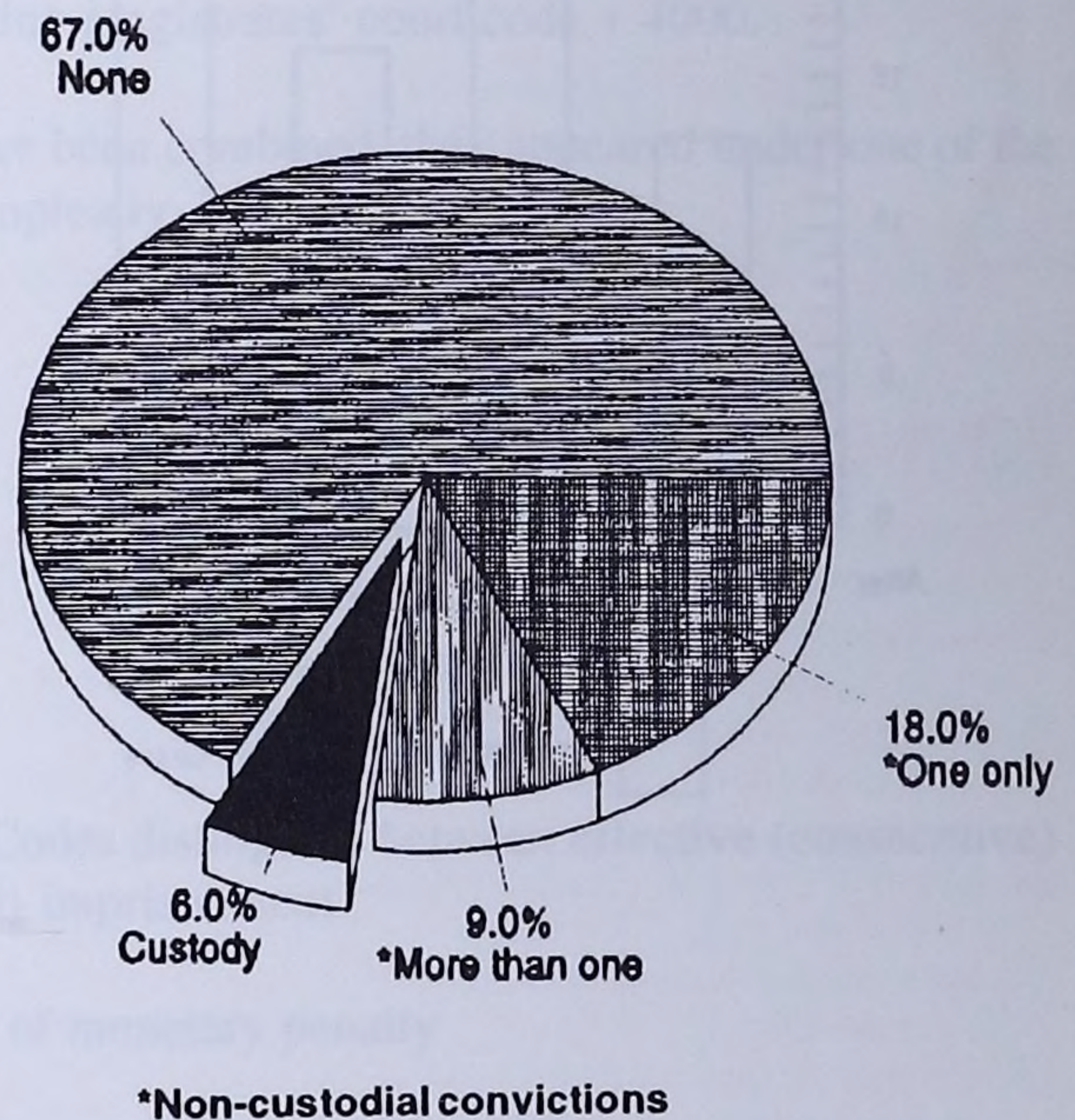
A series of statistical bulletins have been published giving the results of various studies; these can be obtained from the Statistics Section at:

Lunar House,
40 Wellesley Road
Croydon
CRO 9YD

Past work includes tracing the criminal histories of a series of birth cohort samples; which give general statements such as:

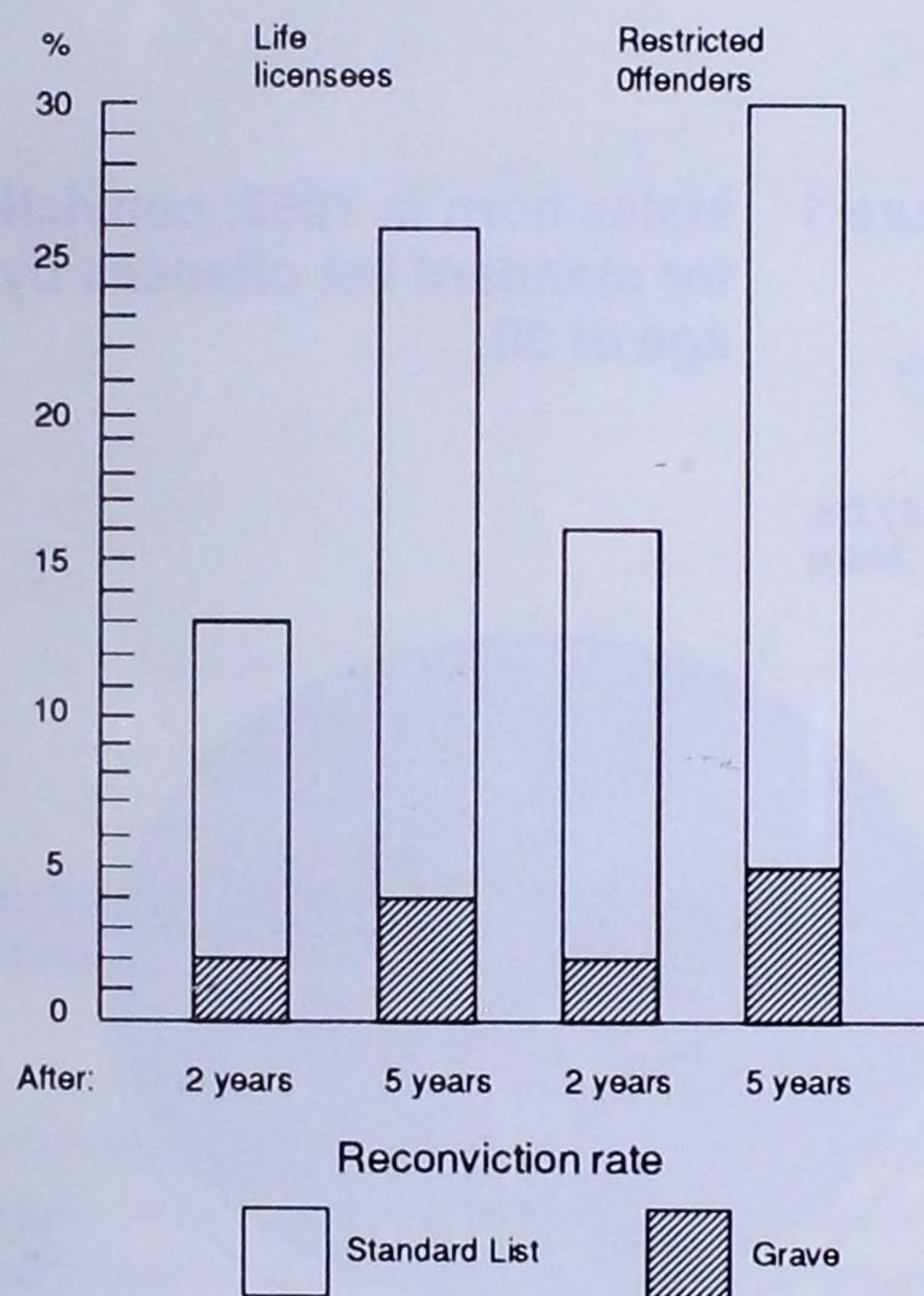
- A** One in three men born in 1953 have been convicted of a serious offence by the age of 30.
- B** Most first convictions occur at age 17; males first convicted in their early teens were more likely to continue offending than those convicted later.
- C** Relatively few offenders account for a large proportion of convictions; nearly two thirds of convictions to group A are committed by the 7 per cent with 6 or more convictions.

Figure 1 Males born in 1953: convictions for standard list offences by the age of 30.



Other bulletins cover community penalties, drug addicts and reconvictions and recalls of life licensees and restricted offenders. (Life sentence prisoners can be released on a licence, which can be revoked if the individual reoffends or for some other reason. Similarly, restricted offenders can be conditionally discharged from hospital, but recalled if necessary). The two year reconviction rate of both life licensees and restricted offenders has remained relatively stable at 2 per cent for 'grave' offence (violent crime). Reconviction rates for life licensees were twice as high for those with previous convictions, as for those without previous convictions. For all serious crimes, the two year reconviction rates are 10 and 15 per cent respectively, much lower than the rates for all adult male ex-prisoners, at some 50 per cent.

Table 2 Life licensees and restricted offenders reconviction rate, released/discharged 1972-84



As the Index becomes more accessible, it is important to consider both resources and confidentiality.

The latter has always been observed; even users within the Civil Service, but outside the Offenders' Index section, must agree to use the archive for statistical purposes only. Like the Census, no tabulation can allow individuals to be identified.

Resources are already a significant issue. At present, both computing and clerical costs are being studied to produce a costing strategy, both internally and for outside researchers. Without costing constraints, the work of the section would become swamped by requests, and be unable to operate efficiently. Where possible, samples are re-used for different projects, and more economical ways of drawing samples and correcting the Index are being designed.

There are other possible uses of the Index which have not yet been investigated, eg follow-up studies of sentencing of individual courts, or even individual sentences, would be possible. Indeed, similar studies are routinely carried out in Germany. However, such studies would require special initiatives, and of course, have resource implications.

Further information on the Offenders' Index is given in a free booklet. *The Offenders Tale: Janus studies* available from:

Mark Croston,
Room 832,
50 Queen Anne's Gate,
London
SW1H 9AT
Telephone: 071-273 4123.

The booklet outlines the data held, defines both grave and serious offences, lists past bulletins published and projects planned. Two further appendices describe results from the cohort studies and those on life licensees and restricted offenders.

INFORMATION HELD ON OFFENDERS' INDEX

For each offender

Surname and initials

Date of birth

Sex

NIB number (where known)

Ethnicity (from 1981 under development)

For each court appearance leading to a conviction:

Age at date of conviction (years)

Date of conviction (ie date of sentence)

Court of conviction:	0000-0200	Central criminal courts
	0201-0300	County and city assizes
	0301-0600	Quarter sessions
	0601-1000	Crown courts
	1001-5000	Magistrates' courts
	5000+	Juvenile courts

In general, the code for a juvenile court is the corresponding magistrates' court code + 4000.

Since the reorganisation of courts in 1984 some courts have been combined, they appeared under one of the above codes and have subsequently been renumbered completely, in blocks.

Police force dealing with case

Number of offences taken into consideration

For each offence for which offender was convicted:

Offence	offence code
Disposal	up to three disposals given. Codes distinguish between effective (consecutive) and non-effective (concurrent) imprisonment
Amount	length of sentence or amount of monetary penalty
Multiplicity	eg "offender was fined £50 for each of 3 offences of theft" would be coded as theft, £50 fine, multiplicity of 3

New surveys notified to the Survey Control Unit

October to December 1991

For further information about the survey listed, the appropriate contact may be obtained from Miss J Dinehart (071-217 4340), Survey Control Unit, Central Statistical Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QQ.

New Surveys October to December 1991

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Employment Department Group Tracking Survey	ED COI		600	GB	AH
Costs to British Industry of Poor Basic Skills	ED	Employers	1208	EW	AH
Employment & Training Opportunities for Homeless People: Survey of Employers	ED	Employers	40	GB	AH
Forms of business relations and the autonomy of the small businessman	ED	Employers	2000	GB	AH
Evaluation of standards methodology	ED	Employers	580	UK	AH
Open and flexible learning: employer access and perceptions	ED	Employers	8500	GB	AH
Study of effect of abolition of the Dock Labour Scheme: Employers' Survey	ED DTP	Employers	93	GB	AH
Employers' Recruitment Practices & Barriers to returning to work	ED ES	Employers	2000	UK	AH
The renewable energy statistics (Restats) database project details survey	DEN ETSU		107	UK	A
Survey on Computer Based Training in UK Industry	DEN ETSU	Manufacturers	1000	UK	AH
Study of Independent Further and Higher Education	DES	Higher Education Institutions	N/K	GB	AH
Study of Local Authority & Housing Association Allocation Policies for the Elderly	DOE	LA's and Housing Associations	94	E	AH
Costings of capital & revenue costs of special needs housing for the elderly	DOE	LA's and Housing Associations	300	E	AH
Survey of need and demand for business support services	DTI	Employers	116	EM	AH
Evaluation of support for collaborative research in the Metal Processing Industry Sector	DTI	Metal Industry	160	UK	AH
Interim evaluation of Durham & Cleveland integrated development operation programme (IDOP)	DTI	County Councils	N/K	N	AH
Evaluation of regional enterprise grants-fourth stage	DTI	Industrial Companies	39	GB	AH
Evaluation of the high temperature superconductivity advanced technology programme (Interim)	DTI	Engineering Companies	170	UK	AH
Study to find out what influences firms to export to South Asia (India)	DTI	Manufacturers	566	GB	AH
UK companies perceptions of North American market	DTI	Exporters	625	UK	AH
Examination of types of trade barriers in EC encountered by UK Exporters	DTI	Exporters	105	UK	AH
Survey of Hackney Carriage Licensing	DTP TRRL	Licensing Officers	738	EW	AH

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Survey of commercial bass fishing interests as part of further appraisal of bass fishery	MAFF	Fishermen/Wholesalers/Retailers	350	EW	AH
Pilot survey of the use of labour on farms	MAFF	Farms	275	UK	AH
Study on potato production	MAFF	Farms	295	UK	AH
National Economic Development Council Productivity Survey	NEDO	English Hotels	900	E	AH
Highlands and Islands Electronics Survey	SOID	Manufacturers	38	S	AH
Rural enterprise programme: base line study	SOAF	Farms	700	S	AH
Study of feuing conditions	SOHH	Legal Advisers	1286	S	AH
Scottish Prison Service-Customer Survey	SOHH	Retailers	250	UK	AH
Effect of alternative cements and cement replacement materials on thermally induced strains in concrete pavements	TRRL DTP	Local Highways Departments	38	E	AH
Survey of information technology in schools	WO	Schools	2000	W	AH
Primary school staffing survey 1992	WO	Schools	4500	W	Y5
Further Education Student Record - Short Courses Record	WO	Further Education Colleges	38	W	A
Conservation advice to farmers	WO	Farms	350	W	AH

Household and individual Surveys

Unemployment campaign publicity evaluation	ED COI	Unemployed	1600	GB	AH
Just the job' booklet research	ED COI	Unemployed	26	GB	AH
School Governors	DES COI	Adults	2000	GB	AH
Teacher recruitment follow-up	DES COI	Adults	750	GB	AH
Parents Charter	DES COI	Adults	1000	GB	AH
National curriculum research	DES COI	Parents	500	GB	AH
General public perceptions of nursing	DH COI	Adults	156	E	AH
Trust hospitals: customer service	DH COI	Patients	900	GB	AH
Drugs: parents monitor	DH COI	Parents	1000	GB	AH
Anti-Drugs misuse campaign: creative development	DH COI	Adults	104	GB	AH
Evaluation of housing management performance in Tenant Management Organisation	DOE	Tenants	1300	E	AH
Pilot study of disturbance due to industrial noise	DOE BRE	Occupiers	200	GB	AH
Model for human response to transportation noise - a pilot study	DOE BRE	Adults	500	GB	AH
Housing needs of elderly people-interview survey with non-elderly disabled adults in community	DOE	Disabled	850	E	AH
Housing needs of elderly people-interview survey with residents of special needs housing schemes	DOE	Elderly	3700	E	AH
Housing needs of elderly people-interview survey on waiting lists for special needs housing	DOE	Elderly	1110	E	AH
The resale of former Council homes - main stage	DOE	Owner/occupiers	3600	UK	AH
Monitoring housing management performance in Local Authorities and Housing Associations	DOE	Tenants	2000	E	AH
National child development study-5th sweep	DOE ESRC	Adults	15000	UK	AH
Benefits agency logo research	DSS COI	Adults	40	UK	AH

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Benefits agency tracking	DSS COI	Adults	2000	GB	AH
Disability living allowance filter leaflets	DSS COI	Disabled	42	GB	AH
Disability benefits advertising-creative development research	DSS COI	Disabled	36	GB	AH
Road safety October 91 pre and post M5 junction 12 improvement roadside interview survey	DTP COI	Adults	2000	UK	AH
M4 widening junctions 4(B)-8(9) & junctions 8(9)-12 traffic study proposals	DTP	Drivers	6000	SW	AH
A47 Thorney bypass roadside interview survey	DTP	Drivers	6000	SE	AH
Mersey crossing study roadside interview surveys	DTP	Drivers	7000	EA	AH
Poole Harbour bridge replacement queue length survey	DTP	Drivers	41000	NW	AH
M1 widening junctions 15-19 model development study	DTP	Drivers	500	SW	AH
A1 Gateshead Western Bypass improvement, roadside interview survey	DTP	Drivers	17500	EM	AH
Whalebone lane and Gallows Corner - roadside survey	DTP	Drivers	9840	N	AH
A127-M25 to Rayleigh roadside interview survey	DTP	Drivers	40000	SE	AH
Safety on the move tracking 91	DTP	Drivers	30000	SE	AH
M4/A4 corridor study A4/Lionel Road	DTP COI	Adults	1000	UK	AH
North Circular Road roadside surveys- Argyle Road/Bollow Lane/Acton Lane	DTP	Drivers	9100	SE	AH
Drink drive winter 1991	DTP	Drivers	2765	SE	AH
Public perceptions of red routes	DTP COI	Men	450	UK	AH
Customer attitudes to Employment Service local offices: qualitative study	DTP	Adults	900	SE	AH
Smoke alarm maintenance research	ES	Claimants	75	UK	AH
Perception of staff to service that the Vehicle Inspectorate offers its customers	HOME COI	Adults	42	UK	AH
Tyne and Wear playing pitch study (Sports Council)	NAO	Adults	1900	UK	AH
Survey of Overseas Development Administration former colonial pensioners	NGOV DOE	Adults	1500	N	AH
Consumer Credit Regulation in the Ethnic Minorities	ODA	Pensioners	1900	WW	AH
National diet and nutrition survey: children aged 1½ to 4½ - pilot	OFT DTI	Immigrants	40	NW	AH
Driver attitudes to speeding	OPCS	Children	120	GB	AH
Unmetered domestic water consumption in Scotland	SO SOEN	Drivers	1340	S	AH
Leeds car park survey	SOEN SO	Occupiers	2000	S	AH
Future parking demands-studies of residential parking supply, demand & behaviour	TRRL DTP	Drivers	5000	YH	AH
Community effects of traffic congestion and its relief	TRRL DTP	Adults	1200	N/K	AH
Pilot study of trip generation in London and the South East	TRRL DTP	Occupiers	1500	E	AH
	TRRL DTP	Commuters	4000	SE	AH

List of Abbreviations

Departments

BRE	Building Research Establishment
COI	Central Office of Information
DEN	Department of Energy
DES	Department of Education & Science
DH	Department of Health
DOE	Department of the Environment
DSS	Department of Social Security
DTI	Department of Trade & Industry
DTP	Department of Transport
ED	Employment Department
ES	Employment Services
ESRC	Economic and Social Research Council
ETSU	Energy Technology Support Unit
HOME	Home Office
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Foods
NAO	National Audit Office
NEDO	National Economic Development Office
NGOV	Non Government
ODA	Overseas Development Administration
OFT	Office of Fair Trading
OPCS	Office of Population, Censuses & Surveys
SO	The Scottish Office
SOAF	The Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department
SOEN	The Scottish Office Environment Department
SOHH	The Scottish Office Home and Health Department
TRRL	Transport and Road Research Laboratory
WO	Welsh Office

Location

E	England
EA	East Anglia
EM	East Midlands
EW	England and Wales
GB	Great Britain
N	North
NW	North West
S	Scotland
SE	South East
SW	South West
UK	United Kingdom
W	Wales
YH	Yorkshire & Humberside
WW	Worldwide

Frequency

A	Annual
AH	Ad Hoc
Y5	Every 5 years

General

EC	European Community
N/K	Not Known

Departmental listings and contact points for recently available statistical series and publications

The following publications containing statistics have recently, or will soon become available. Unless otherwise specified, copies can be purchased from HMSO. A list of release dates of economic series is published monthly in *Economic Trends*.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

The following MAFF Statistical Notices are available free of charge:

Cereals production survey, 1991 harvest: final results of first survey, England and Wales, September, 191/91

Earnings and hours of Agricultural and Horticultural Workers Survey: period ended September 1991, England and Wales, 215/91

June Agricultural and Horticultural Census 1991: final results, England, 218/91

Monthly sample survey of grain fed to livestock: England and Wales, September 1991, 197/91, October 1991, 217/91

Monthly sample survey of cereal stocks: England and Wales, September 1991, 203/91, October 1991, 2/92

Straw disposal survey 1991, England, 209/91

Census of Farmed Deer, September 1991, England and Wales, 17/92

The above Statistical Notices are available from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Statistics, Census & Prices
Branch B
Room A615
Government Buildings
Epsom Road
GUILDFORD GU1 2LD
Telephone: 0483-68121 (Ext 3577)

The following publications are available on a regular basis:

Weekly: *Agricultural Market Report: England and Wales.*

The report is published in 2 parts and contains prices, quantity and quality information on selected cereals, live stock, homegrown horticultural produce and other agricultural products.

Monthly: *Agricultural Price Indices*
(in a Statistical Notice)

The above are available (on subscription for the Market Report) from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Statistics, Census & Prices
Branch A
Room A509
Government Buildings
Epsom Road
GUILDFORD GU1 2LD

Quarterly: *National Food Survey: Household Consumption*

Available from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Economics & Statistics (Food)
Branch C
Room 513
West Block
Whitehall Place
LONDON SW1A 2HN
Telephone: 071-270 8562

Annual: *Report No 17 Oilseed Rape*
price £6.00 net

Available from:

The Farm Management Survey Unit
Askham Bryan College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Askham Bryan
YORK YO2 3PR

*Report No 18 Pig Management
Scheme Results 1991*
price £7.00 net

Available from:

The Agricultural Economics Unit
Department of Land Economy
University of Cambridge
19 Silver Street
CAMBRIDGE CB3 9EP

*Agricultural Statistics United Kingdom
1989*
HMSO Annual
price £12.50 net

*Household Food Consumption and
Expenditure 1990*
HMSO Annual
price £21.00 net.

Central Statistical Office

Monthly periodicals:

Economic Trends
HMSO, price £11.50 net
Annual subscription, including supplement, price
£140.00 net

Financial Statistics
HMSO, price £8.95 net
Annual subscription, including handbook, price
£110.00 net

Monthly Digest of Statistics
HMSO, price £6.95 net
Annual subscription, including supplement, price
£80.00 net

Annual publications:

Key Data 1991-92 edition
HMSO, September 1991
price £3.95 net

Social Trends 22
HMSO, January 1992
price £24.75 net
Regional Trends 26
HMSO, July 1991
price £23.00 net
United Kingdom National Accounts 1991 edition
HMSO, September 1991
price £13.95 net
Family expenditure survey 1989
HMSO, December 1991
price £19.50 net
Annual abstract of statistics No 128
HMSO, January 1992
price £21.00 net
United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1991 edition
HMSO, September 1991
price £11.75 net
Guide to Official Statistics
HMSO, 1990
price £24.00 net
Retail Prices 1914-1990
HMSO, April 1991
price £10.95 net

Education and Science

The following free Statistical Bulletins are now available:

- 14/91 *Participation in education by young people aged 16 and 17 in each Local Education Authority & Region; England 1985/86 to 1989/90*
- 15/91 *First known destination of first degree graduates from institutions in Great Britain 1963-1989*
- 16/91 *Students in higher education in England excluding universities*
- 17/91 *Students on Initial Teacher Training Courses*
- 18/91 *Secondary School Staffing Survey - 1988*
- 19/91 *Statistics of Further Education Students in England 1970/1 - 1989/90*
- 20/91 *Students from abroad in Great Britain 1980 to 1989*
- 21/91 *Education Expenditure from 1979-80*
- 22/91 *School Examination Survey 1989/90*
- 1/91 *Teachers in service and teacher vacancies in England in January 1991*

2/92 Pupil teacher ratios for each Local Education Authority in England (including Grant-Maintained Schools) - January 1991

The following are published annually:

Schools (England)
School Leavers, CSE and GCE (England)
Statistics of Education: School Examinations - GCSE and GCE, 1990
Further Education (England)
Further Education Student: Staff Ratios (England)
Finance and Awards (England and Wales)
Statistics of Education: Teachers in Service (England and Wales) 1987 and 1988

Copies, price £12.00 net

All the above listed publications are available from:

Department of Education and Science
Room 338
Mowden Hall
Staindrop Road
DARLINGTON DL3 9BG
Telephone: 0325-392683

The following publication is now available:

Education Statistics for the United Kingdom - 1990 edition
HMSO, price £11.50 net

Employment

Employment Gazette, which is published on a Thursday towards the beginning of each month, regularly contains recent data and time-series on employment, unemployment, earnings, prices, family expenditure, tourism and other indicators. In recent months there were special features on:

VAT registrations and deregistrations in 1990
(November 1991)
Alcohol at work: the cost to employers
(December 1991)
Clearing the qualifications jungle
(January 1992)

Employment Gazette is published monthly by HMSO, price £4.50 per issue, annual subscription, inclusive of postage, is £48.00. Available from:

HMSO Books
PO Box 276
LONDON SW8 5DT

Training Statistics 1990
HMSO, price £10.50 net, ISBN 0 11 361 3199

This new reference volume was designed to meet the need for an easily accessible source of reference on a wide range of training-related statistics. The statistics included have all been publicly available before but not previously collected in one place.

Environment

Housing and Construction Statistics, Great Britain 1980-90
Housing and Construction Statistics, Part 1 No 47 September Quarter 1991
Housing and Construction Statistics, Part 2 No 47 September Quarter 1991
Local Housing Statistics, England and Wales, No 98 June 1991
Household Projections England 1989-2011
Local Government Financial Statistics England, No 2 1990
Housing Trailers to the 1981 and 1984 Labour Force Surveys
UK Blood Lead Monitoring Programme 1984-87: Results for 1986, (Pollution reports, No 26)
Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics, No 13 1990

The above publications are available from HMSO.

Statistical Bulletin (91) 1: Environmental Protection and Water Statistics: Supplement to the Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics, No 13 1990
Statistical Bulletin (89) 6: RIMNET - Gamma Radiation dose rates at monitoring sites throughout the United Kingdom, April 1989-September 1989

The above annual Bulletins provide additional detailed tables for most of the Chapter topics in the

Department's *Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics* published by HMSO.

Land Use Change in England, Statistical Bulletin (90) 5 figures for 1989

Rent Officer Statistics: third and fourth quarters 1990, Statistical Bulletin (91)2

Rent Officer Statistics: first quarter 1991 and financial year 1990/91, Statistical Bulletin (91)3

Housebuilding in England by Local Authority Areas: 1980-1989

Development Control Statistics: England 1989-90

The above publications are available from:

Department of the Environment
Publications Sales Unit
Building 3, Spur 2, Room 1
Government Buildings
Limegrove
Eastcote
Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 8SE
Telephone: 081-429 5170

The following information is issued in press notices or Bulletins on a regular basis:

Monthly: *Housebuilding, construction new orders, building new orders, building materials and components, brick production, and new orders by type of work*

Quarterly: *Construction output and employment, planning applications and decisions, renovations and homeless households*

Annually: *Slum clearance*

Further information is available from:

Department of the Environment
LGS, Room P1/177C
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB
Telephone: 071-276 4003

Health

The following Statistical publications are available:

Statistical Bulletin 4(4)91 Statistics for General Medical Practitioners in England and Wales 1979 to 1989

Statistical Bulletin 2(9) 91 Hospital, Public Health Medicine and Community Health Service Medical and Dental Staff

Statistical Bulletin 2(10)91 NHS Hospital and Community Health Services non-medical staff in post in England 1981-1990

Health & Safety Executive

Local Authorities Report on Health and Safety in Service Industries 1989/90

price £3.50 net
ISBN 0 11 885656 1

Health and Safety Commission Annual Report 1991-91

price £10.00 net
ISBN 0 11 885726 6

Health and Safety Statistics Report 1989/90 published as a supplement to the September issue of *Employment Gazette* available free of charge from:

HSE Statistical Services Unit
Room 512
Daniel House
Stanley Road
BOOTLE L20 7HE
Telephone: 051-9514862/9514604

Home Office

The following Home Office Statistical Bulletins, which are now issued free of charge, were published in the period July to December 1991

Issue	Title
14/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of certain police powers under the police and criminal evidence act, England and Wales, 1990.</i>

Issue	Title
15/91	<i>Time intervals for indictable proceedings in magistrates' courts: February 1991.</i>
16/91	<i>Statistics of breath tests, England and Wales, 1990.</i>
17/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 2nd quarter 1991.</i>
18/91	<i>Notifiable offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, July 1990 - June 1991.</i>
19/91	<i>Statistics of the misuse of drugs: seizures and offenders dealt with, United Kingdom, 1990.</i>
20/91	<i>Summary probation statistics, England and Wales, 1990.</i>
21/91	<i>Life licensees and restricted offenders reconvictions: England and Wales, 1989.</i>
22/91	<i>Statistics of domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts England and Wales, 1990.</i>
23/91	<i>Statistics of the operation of the firearms acts, 1968 to 1988 - England and Wales, 1990.</i>
24/91	<i>Betting Licensing statistics, Great Britain June 1990 - May 1991.</i>
25/91	<i>Control of immigration: statistics - 1st and 2nd quarters 1991.</i>
26/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of the prevention of terrorism legislation - 3rd quarter 1991.</i>
27/91	<i>Time intervals for criminal proceedings in magistrates' courts: June 1991.</i>
28/91	<i>Summary fire statistics, United Kingdom 1990.</i>
29/91	<i>Statistics of mentally disordered offenders, England and Wales, 1989 and 1990.</i>
30/91	<i>Notifiable offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, October 1990 - September 1991.</i>
31/91	<i>Cautions court proceedings and sentencing in 1990.</i>

Copies of these Bulletins are available from:

Research and Statistics Department
Home Office
Room 1834
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
CROYDON CRO 9YD
Telephone: 081-760 2850

or by personal application to:

Publications Officer
Home Office Library
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON SW1H 9AT

The following Home Office Statistical publications have also been issued:

Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 1989

price £5.50 net

A digest of information on the Criminal Justice
(free)

They are available from:

Mr D Harding
Home Office
Statistical Department
Room 1834
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
CROYDON CRO 9YD

Cheques should be made payable to the 'Accounting Officer Home Office'.

Northern Ireland

A series of occasional Statistical Bulletins are available and include the following:

Hospital Statistics, year ending 31 March 1990

Inpatient and Outpatient data by speciality, hospital and Board

Health and Personal Social Services Statistics, year ending 31 March 1991

Annual summary of data providing a broad picture of activity in NI HPSS

These are available from:

Department of Health and Social Services
Regional Information Branch
Annexe 2, Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST BT4 3UD

1990 Labour Force Survey - Religion Report 3/91

Copies of this free publication may be obtained from:

Policy Planning and Research Unit
Statistics and Social Division
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3SW
Telephone: 0232-763210 (Ext 2473)

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

Population Trends 67-Spring 1992
HMSO, price £7.25 net

OPCS Monitors

available from:

OPCS Information Branch
St Catherines House
10 Kingsway
LONDON WC2B 6JP
Telephone: 071-242 0262 (Ext 2243)

Fatal accidents occurring during sporting and leisure activities, 1990 registrations
(Series DH4 91/4)
price £1.50 net

General Household Survey: Cigarette smoking 1972 to 1990
(Series SS 91/3)
price £2.00 net

Annual Reference Volumes

Mortality statistics: childhood 1989 England and Wales

(Series DH6 no 3)
HMSO, price £10.30 net
ISBN 0 11 691360 6

Mortality statistics: cause 1990 England and Wales
(Series DH2 no 17)

HMSO, price £11.10 net
ISBN 0 11 691363 0

Key population and Vital Statistics: local and health authority areas 1990 England and Wales

(Series VS no 17/PPI no 13)
HMSO, price £10.30 net
ISBN 0 11 691364 9

Sub-national population projections 1989-based England

(Series PP3 no 8)
HMSO, price £11.10 net
ISBN 0 11 691362 2

Abortion statistics 1990 England and Wales
(Series AB no 17)

HMSO, price £8.80 net
ISBN 0 11 691352 5

Social Survey Reports

Leisure day visits in Great Britain 1988/89
(Series SS 1279)

HMSO, price £40.00 net
ISBN 0 11 691358 4

Compiling the electoral register 1990
(Series SS 1280)

HMSO, price £9.80 net
ISBN 0 11 691350 9

Occasional Papers

Making a population estimate in England and Wales
(Occasional paper 37)

OPCS, price £3.75 net
ISBN 0904952 73 8

A review of migration data sources
(Occasional paper 39)

OPCS, price £4.50 net
ISBN 0 904952 74 6

Scottish Office Education

The following Statistical Bulletins are available:

- Edn/L1/1991/16 Student Awards*
Edn/B2/1991/17 Pupil Projections
Edn/F7/1991/18 Students registered in Vocational Further Education in Scotland 1985/86-1989/90

Copies of the above Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

The Scottish Office Education Department also publishes Statistical Bulletins on the following subjects:

Primary Education
University Students
Scottish Higher Education Statistics
The National Certificate 1989-90
School Leavers

Scottish Office Environment

The following Housing series Statistical Bulletins are available:

- HSG/1991/7 *Housing Trends in Scotland - quarter ended 30 June 1991*
(published November 1991)
HSG/1992/2 *Housing Trends in Scotland - quarter ended 30 September 1991*
(published March 1992)

Topic Bulletins:

- HSG/1991/8 *Lead plumbing in Scottish houses: estimates by Local Authorities and other housing bodies*
(published November 1991)
HSG/1992/1 *Operation of the Homeless Persons Legislation in Scotland 1979/80-1990/91*
(published January 1992)

Copies of these Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrews House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Scottish Office Home and Health

The following Statistical Bulletins are available:

- CRJ/1/1991 *Recorded Crime in Scotland 1990*
CRJ/2/1991 *Recorded Crimes and Offences Involving Firearms, Scotland 1990*
CRJ/1991/3 *Children and Crime, Scotland, 1989*
CRJ/1991/4 *Homicide in Scotland 1986-1990*
CRJ/1991/5 *Criminal proceedings in Scottish Courts, 1989*
CRJ/1992/1 *Prison Statistics Scotland 1990*

Copies of the above Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Scottish Office Industry Department

The following Statistical Bulletin is available:

- No C1.4 *The Electronics Industry in Scotland*
(published September 1991)

Copies of the above Bulletin, price £1.25 net, may be purchased from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Social Security

The Department of Social Security produces regular monthly and quarterly statistical series on such topics as unemployment benefit, child benefit and sickness and invalidity benefits. Extracts and summaries for these series are published in *Social Security Statistics*. Further information can be obtained from:

Mr W J Graham
Department of Social Security
Room 31M
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE98 1YX
Telephone: 091-225 7373 (GTN 5222 x 57373)

Transport

Recent Statistical publications by the Department of Transport:

Bus and coach statistics 1990/91
HMSO Annual
price £11.20 net
The transport of goods by road in Great Britain 1990. Annual report of the continuing survey of road goods transport
HMSO Annual
price £12.00 net
International road haulage by United Kingdom vehicles - Report on 1990
HMSO Annual
price £16.50 net
Road Accident Statistics English Regions 1990
HMSO Annual
price £8.40 net

The following publication is available from:

British Ports Federation
Victoria House
Vernon Place
LONDON WC1B 4LL
Telephone: 071-242 1200

Port Statistics Bulletin Provisional Traffic Statistics 1990
DTp/BPF
price £12.00 net

The following Department of Transport Statistical Bulletins are issued on a regular basis:

Monthly: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Great Britain*
price £3.00 net, annual subscription
£30.00 net

Quarterly: *Road Goods vehicles on Roll-on Roll-off ferries to Mainland Europe*
price £5.00 net
Road Casualties Great Britain
price £4.00 net
Quarterly Transport Statistics
price £5.00 net, annual subscription
£12.00 net
Traffic in Great Britain
price £8.00 net, annual subscription
£27.00 net

Department of Transport Statistical Bulletins are available from:

Publication Sales Unit
Building 1
Victoria Road
South Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 ONZ
Telephone: 081-841 3425

The Department of Transport is often prepared to sell unpublished data. Further information can be obtained from:

Directorate of Statistics
Department of Transport
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3PY
Telephone: 071-276 8513

Welsh Office

The Incidence of Congenital Malformations in Wales 1980-89 - a Welsh Office report of notifications made to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
price £3.00 net

Statistics of Education in Wales : Schools No 5 1991

price £4.00 net

1989 Based Household Projections for the Counties of Wales

price £10.00 net

Welsh Hospital Waiting List Bulletin 1993: No 1

price £3.00 net

Health & Personal Social Services Statistics for Wales No 18 1991

price £5.00 net

Residential Accommodation for Elderly People and People with Physical or Visual Disabilities: year ended 31 March 1991

price £3.00 net

Environmental Digest for Wales No 6 1991

price £6.00 net

Welsh Economic Trends No 13 1992

price £10.00 net

The above publications are available from:

Publications Unit

Economic and Statistical Services Division

Welsh Office

Cathays Park

CARDIFF CF1 3NQ

Telephone: 0222-825044 (GTN 1208)

At least 50,000 PEOPLE RATE HIM HIGHLY EACH YEAR

..... but then perhaps it figures !

Ring Ian Bushnell -
The CSO Statistical
Inquiry Point
0633 812973



Government Publications

The following section provides more detailed information on individual publications. Where no reference or price is shown please refer to the previous chapter covering Departmental listings for purchase details.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Household Food Consumption and Expenditure

This annual report of the National Food Survey Committee was published on 16 December 1991. It marks the fiftieth year of the Survey, the history and development of which was recently discussed in *Fifty Years of the National Food Survey 1940-1990* (HMSO, July 1991). In addition to presenting the main results from the 1990 survey, it introduces analyses of some of the changes in household food consumption and expenditure over the 50 years of the Survey's history.

The National Food Survey is a continuous sampling enquiry into the domestic food consumption and expenditure of private households in Great Britain. Respondents provide information on food bought into their household supplies for one week, together with certain details about the household. This enables patterns of consumption to be investigated, including some between regions, between households of different compositions and those in different income groups. Economic and nutritional statistics are also derived from the results and shown in the report.

The results for 1990 and the historical period are presented in the form of tables and charts, with a commentary highlighting aspects of the data.

*Household Food Consumption and Expenditure 1990
With a study of trends over the period 1940-1990*
HMSO, December 1991, price £21.00 net

Special Studies in Agricultural Economics

Special Studies in Agricultural Economics are commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food from the Agricultural Economics Departments of seven Universities and a College of Agriculture and Horticulture. A complete list of reports published in the series is available from:

Mr G R S Norris
Economics (Farm Business) Division
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place (West Block)
LONDON SW1P 2HH
Telephone: 071-270 8616

Oilseed Rape 1990 (Report No 17)

This report presents the results of a survey of the economics of the oilseed rape crop harvested in 1990 and gives details of output, gross and net margins, by EC region and size of enterprise. It discusses the development of the crop in the last decade, management practices, marketing and future prospects for this commodity. Copies are available, price £6.00 net, from:

The Farm Management Survey Unit
Askham Bryan College of Agriculture
and Horticulture
Askham Bryan
YORK YO2 3PR

Pig Management Scheme Results 1991 (Report No 18)

This is the latest in an annual series of reports conducted by the University of Cambridge since 1949. It presents the results of a survey of the economics of pig production in the eastern counties of England and gives considerable information on the physical and financial performance of pig production by herd type and production method for the year ended 30 September 1991.

Copies are available, price £7.00 net, from:

Agricultural Economics Unit
Department of Land Economy
University of Cambridge
19 Silver Street
CAMBRIDGE CB3 9EP

Census of Farmed Deer

Information was gathered on the number of farmed deer by type, age and sex together with data on area fenced for deer, on holdings with inspection equipment for deer and on movement of deer.

A statistical notice for England and Wales is published. This includes a regional breakdown of deer by age and sex.

Central Statistical Office

Balance of Payments Statistics

A Review of UK Collection and Compilation Methods

This report on a review carried out by Richard Eason, on behalf of the Central Statistical Office, as part of the Chancellor's Initiative on economic statistics, announced in May 1990 was published on 19 November 1991. Among the 38 recommendations for improvements were:

- The wider use of existing statutory powers to secure full response to surveys, eg the Financial Assets and Liabilities survey, and a more evenly shared burden on businesses.
- Transfer to the CSO of some data collection from non-bank institutions previously undertaken by the Bank of England.
- Improving further the quarterly statistics available on overseas trade in services.
- Investigating ways of ensuring better coverage of the overseas transactions of the personal sector, eg through a household survey.
- Investigating the removal of off-shore centres from the definition of the UK in the balance of payments and financial accounts.
- Investigating the use of trend estimates and publishing balanced accounts.

- Investigation of the option of surveying directly shipping companies, port authorities, airlines.
- That the share register survey be held annually.
- That a study should be carried out to estimate external trade credit.

An action plan in response to the recommendations in the Review was also issued on 19 November 1991.

Copies of both the Review and the action plan are available, price £5.00 net, from:

Mr G H Dennis
Branch 17
Room 67/3
Central Statistical Office
Government Offices
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P 3AQ
Telephone: 071-270 6083

Statutory Annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey

Improvements to Economic Statistics: A Progress Report. *Statistical News* page 94.5 described progress on the package of improvements announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 17 May 1990. One of the projects included was the introduction of a statutory annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey to large UK industrial and commercial companies.

Provisional results from the statutory annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey were used in the 1991 *CSO Blue Book* and *Pink Book* to provide estimates of industrial and commercial companies' holdings of various financial assets, including certificates of deposit, commercial paper and UK and overseas company securities. The survey showed that industrial and commercial companies' holdings of these instruments were much lower than previously estimated and contributed to a substantial reduction in the industrial and commercial company sector balancing item in 1989 and 1990. Revised results from the statutory annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey have now been used in CSO

Bulletin (89/91) *Company Liquidity*.

The statutory annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey requested figures of holdings of specified assets and liabilities at 31 December 1990, though responding companies were allowed to give figures for their own balance sheet date in the 1990 accounting year. The largest companies were selected on the basis of total net assets in their published accounts for the 1987 accounting year, including large companies formed subsequently by divestment or privatisation. This comprised about 650 companies each with total net assets of £40 million or more.

The panel of contributors to the former Company Liquidity Survey are continuing to provide voluntary quarterly returns, but now use the Financial Assets and Liabilities format introduced for the annual survey. About 250 companies provide voluntary quarterly returns and these have been used to calculate the results for the quarters of 1991.

In order to provide continuous series for the *Company Liquidity* CSO Bulletin the old Company Liquidity Survey results have been revised from the first quarter of 1987 onwards. The new estimates are derived in interpolation between the old Company Liquidity Survey estimates for end 1986 and the new Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey estimates for end 1990 using the quarter on quarter changes in the old estimates together with some information from the published accounts of companies not on the Company Liquidity Survey panel.

The National and Financial Accounts continue to use the provisional results from the statutory annual Financial Assets and Liabilities Survey. The revised results will have only a small impact on the main macro-economic aggregates produced by the CSO. They will be introduced into these macro-economic aggregates during 1992.

Regional Accounts

The first part of the annual regional accounts was published in the November 1991 issue of *Economic Trends*. The article presented estimates of gross domestic product (GDP) for the UK regions and counties. The GDP estimates are income based and at factor cost. Regional GDP is shown from 1980 to

1990 with an analysis by industry and by factor income for 1987 to 1990. The 1990 figures are provisional. County GDP is given for 1981, 1984, 1987 and 1989. Regional gross domestic fixed capital formation (GDFCF) is given for 1988 and 1989.

The second part of the regional accounts will include estimates of personal income and consumers' expenditure by region up to 1990 (provisional) and household income by region 1987 to 1990. Household income by county will be given for 1989. Regional and county estimates of GDFCF by function of government will also be given for 1989. The second part of the accounts will be published in *Economic Trends* in March or April.

The published tables together with revised data for earlier years and more detailed analyses are also available in the form of computer spreadsheets stored on diskettes. To obtain these or further information please contact:

Mr R Cooper
Regional Accounts Section
Central Statistical Office
Millbank Tower
Millbank
LONDON SW1P 4QQ
Telephone: 071-217 4197

Reference

Economic Trends No 457
HMSO, November 1991, price £11.00 net

Pension Funds: Special Issue (Rebased estimates to Quarter 2 1991)

This CSO Bulletin (92/91) was published in December and contains pension funds estimates which have been rebased on statistics prepared by the Government Actuary's Department in respect of the year 1987. The estimates, which replace those withdrawn from publication in early 1991, have been revised back to 1984. A full benchmark study is planned for later in 1992 or 1993 when a complete register of self-administered pension funds schemes becomes available to the CSO for the first time.

The above Bulletin is available, price £2.25 net, from:

CSO Library
 Government Buildings
 Cardiff Road
 NEWPORT NP9 1XG
 Telephone: 0633-812828 (GTN 1211)

CSO Bulletins

The following is a list of recent publications in the CSO Bulletin series. Only the latest in a series is mentioned.

	Issue No	Frequency
Insurance and pensions	1/92	Q
GB Cinema exhibitors	3/92	Q
Steel stocks and consumption	6/92	Q
Engineering sales and orders	7/92	M
Overseas travel and tourism	8/92	M
Credit business	9/92	M
Machine tools	10/92	M
Acquisitions and mergers within the UK	11/92	Q
Capital expenditure and stockbuilding (provisional results)	12/92	Q

Key to frequency of issue

A/H = Ad-Hoc

A = Annual

M = Monthly

B = Bi-annual

Q = Quarterly

CSO Bulletins are available individually, price £2.50 net, or on subscription annually depending on the service required. The price for a complete set offers a substantial discount on the sum of subscriptions to individual titles. Further information can be obtained from:

The Librarian
 Central Statistical Office
 Government Buildings
 Cardiff Road
 NEWPORT NP9 1XG
 Telephone: 0633-812973 (GTN 1211 2973)

Education

School Examination Survey 1989/90 (Bulletin 22/91)

This Bulletin gives details of examination results and intended destinations of pupils in England in 1989/90. It updates figures published in Bulletin 1/91 and includes, as previously, analyses based on two separate samples of pupils, a 7 per cent sample of 16 year olds and a 10 per cent sample of leavers. Grant-maintained schools are shown as a separate category for the first time.

Teachers in Service and Teacher Vacancies in England in January 1991 (Bulletin 1/92)

This Bulletin presents information on all teachers and further education lecturers employed in January 1991, and in the preceding five years, by the 109 local education authorities and 50 grant-maintained schools in England. The Bulletin analyses the data on teachers in service by sector, type of contract and type of LEA; teachers taking up their first appointment by phase and nature of qualification; and full-time vacant teacher posts by phase, region and main teaching subject (secondary) or age range of deployment (primary). Comparisons are also made between trends in teacher numbers and pupil numbers.

Pupil Teacher Ratios for each Local Education Authority in England (including Grant-Maintained Schools) - January 1991 (Bulletin 2/92)

This annual Bulletin gives information on pupil/teacher ratios (PTRs) in primary and secondary schools in each local education authority (LEA), by region and for England as a whole in 1991. It provides information on the number of full-time equivalent pupils and qualified teachers in maintained nursery, primary and secondary schools and there is a time series table giving figures for England over the period 1987 to 1991.

Statistics of Education Teachers in Service - England and Wales - 1987 and 1988

This volume is normally an annual publication but this edition covers 2 complete years. It comprises statistics on full-time teachers in nursery, primary, secondary and special schools and establishments of Further Education in England and Wales. It contains analyses of teachers by type of school, graduate status, sex, age-band, class of degree, degree subject, pay scale and salary. Movements of teachers are also shown including inflow and wastage rates, movement between sectors and between regions. Summary statistical information on occasional, part-time and unqualified teachers in schools is also provided by school type.

Some of the statistics are presented on a regional basis and a number of tables are produced in time series.

Statistics of Education School Examinations - GCSE and GCE - England 1990

This volume is an annual publication. It contains statistics on GCSE and GCE examination results of pupils in maintained secondary and independent schools aged 15 at 31 August 1989, and older pupils when they leave the school sector, and GCE examination results of students in establishments of Further Education, in England during the academic year 1989/90. It also contains statistics on the intended destination of school leavers during the 1989/90 academic year. Some of the statistics are presented on a LEA and regional basis and a number of tables are produced in time series.

Scottish Education Statistics

The following Statistical Bulletins are available, price £1.25 net.

Graduates and Diplomates from Higher Education Courses and Their First Destinations: 1980/81-1989/90

This Bulletin contains information about students successfully completing full-time and sandwich higher education courses at universities and grant-aided or local authority colleges in Scotland.

Published February 1992

Adults in Schools and Colleges

This Bulletin presents a range of information about adults who, after experiencing some break in full-time education, continue their studies at education establishments in Scotland to improve their vocational education.

Published February 1992

The Curriculum in Education Authority Secondary Schools in Scotland in September 1989

This Bulletin provides information on the timetabled curriculum offered by education authority secondary schools at September 1989. Details are provided of the curriculum followed by pupils, class sizes, the ability ranges of pupils in classes and the number of teaching groups formed in each subject and stage.

Published February 1992

Teaching Qualifications and Activities of Scottish Secondary Teachers: September 1990

This Bulletin looks at the subject teaching qualifications of teachers who were teaching in education authority schools in Scotland at the time of the School Census held in September 1990. Usage of qualifications is also examined by comparing them against teaching activities.

Published March 1992.

School Leaver Qualifications 1989-90

This Bulletin provides details of the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) qualifications held by pupils who left Scottish schools in 1989-90 and some earlier sessions.

Published March 1992

Employment

The following articles are taken from special features which appeared in the *Labour Market Quarterly Report* for November 1991, a publication of the Employment Department.

British workforce in employment

The GB workforce in employment (including employees in employment, self-employment, HM forces and participants on work-related government training programmes) stood at 25,555 thousand in June 1991. This is a fall of 221 thousand in the second quarter of 1991 (56 thousand of this fall is accounted for by women), this is a smaller fall than the previous quarter (250 thousand). Although the number of people in employment has been falling for a year now it is still higher than when the upward trend began in March 1983.

In June 1991 there were 11.3 million women (44 per cent of the total) in the workforce. Of these, 45 per cent were employed part-time. The figure for men being 10 per cent employed part-time.

In June 1991 there were about 3.2 million self-employed people in Great Britain (2,449,000 men and 773,000 women). More recent estimates are not available.

The seasonally adjusted number employed in the service industries fell by 257,000 from the peak of 15,477 thousand in June 1990 to a total of 15,220 thousand in June 1991.

Manufacturing employment continues to fall. During the twelve months to June 1991 the number of employees in manufacturing industries fell by 288,000 to 4,780,000 (seasonally adjusted). The figure fell a further 69,000 by August.

Workforce in Employment in Great Britain

Thousands (Seasonally Adjusted)		Employees in Employment				*Self- Employ- ment	HM Forces	Work related Govt. Training	Workforce In Employment	Change on previous quarter
		Manu- facturing	Services	Other	TOTAL					
1989	Q1	5,115	15,201	1,794	22,110	3,118	312	438	25,977	+241
	Q2	5,101	15,242	1,799	22,143	3,182	308	452	26,084	+107
	Q3	5,109	15,294	1,796	22,199	3,192	308	456	26,155	+71
	Q4	5,098	15,387	1,799	22,284	3,202	306	438	26,230	+75
1990	Q1	5,081	15,392	1,798	22,272	3,212	306	423	26,213	-17
	Q2	5,068	15,477	1,788	22,333	3,222	303	412	26,270	+57
	Q3	5,041	15,453	1,773	22,267	-	303	398	26,190**	-81
	Q4	4,969	15,380	1,743	22,092	-	300	411	26,026**	-164
1991	Q1	4,872	15,273	1,700	21,846	-	298	410	25,775**	-250
	Q2	4,780	15,220	1,674	21,675	-	297	361	25,555	-221

*Estimates of self-employment up to mid-1990 are based on the 1981 Census of Population and the results of the Labour Force Surveys carried out between 1981 and 1990. The figures for June 1990 are carried forward in the workforce in employment total** for later dates pending the results of the 1991 Labour Force Survey.

Small Firms and Enterprise

The number of businesses registered for VAT in the United Kingdom increased by an estimated 50,000 in 1990 - an average of nearly 1,000 a week. While a slower increase than the record 1,600 a week in 1989, this was nevertheless faster than the average for the 1980s as a whole.

The net increase was the result of a slightly reduced number of new registrations 235,000 - and a slightly increased number of deregistrations - 185,000. It brings the total number of VAT-registered firms in the UK to 1.71 million.

In 1990, there was a net increase in every region, although in each case less than in 1989. Other than the general slowdown, the trends of recent years continued with the biggest proportionate rise in the South East and the lowest in Northern Ireland.

There was a net increase in all industries other than agriculture and retailing, again much as in recent years. In wholesaling alone, the net increase in 1990 was greater than in 1989; otherwise there was a lower increase in all industries. Over the period 1980-90, there was an increase in all industries other than agriculture and retailing, with rises of over 100 per cent in finance, property and professional services and in other services.

Further details of the figures, and analysis of the trends, is contained in VAT registrations and deregistrations in 1990 in the November issue of *Employment Gazette*.

Note that some figures are available down to local authority districts these are available either on paper or computer disk at a cost of £75 (free to those in government or associated bodies such as TECs) from the address at the end of this article. Alternatively, the data are now available online via NOMIS: an address for those interested in further details of this service is also given at the end of this article.

One feature of the latest VAT results which may seem surprising is the relatively modest rise in the number of deregistrations - less than 10 per cent between 1989 and 1990, a period which saw a rise of

around 50 per cent in the number of insolvencies (personal bankruptcies plus company liquidations). How can these figures be reconciled?

The key to understanding this is that the number of insolvencies, at around 30,000 in 1990, is very much less than the number of VAT deregistrations, 185,000 in the same year. Neither is a perfect measure of business failures, but VAT deregistrations cover a far greater proportion of all closures of businesses.

This is a far less gloomy picture than the one presented by many reports over the last year or so, highlighting the spectacular rises in insolvencies, and in related measures such as numbers of receivership appointments. However the proportion of all business closures resulting in formal insolvency has increased substantially so, while the total number of closures has not risen as dramatically as many reports suggest, they have become much more painful.

The VAT figures present a more balanced picture in that, unlike the higher profile measures of business failures, they also show the other side of the coin, business starts. While these declined somewhat in 1990, they still comfortably outstripped the number of business closures.

The trends since the beginning of this year are less clear, but the picture emerging from the available information is not too discouraging. While the number of insolvencies has continued to rise, there have been some signs of a slackening in the rate of increase. For example, the number of receiverships has, according to some reports, remained broadly unchanged throughout the last 9 months of 1991. But we must expect the numbers to continue rising for some time. The number of business starts has held up well, with the major banks reporting similar levels to the first half of 1990. A further encouraging sign of continuing new business activity is that throughout the Spring and Summer of 1990 there were on average over 1,000 start-ups a week under the Enterprise Allowance Scheme alone.

These trends are examined in more detail in a helpful new publication, the *Nat West Review of Small Business Trends*, the second issue of which will be published shortly. As well as business failure statis-

tics, the review brings together data from a wide variety of sources.

For example, the first issue compared the results of a number of surveys of business expectations, such as the CBI smaller firms survey and the Nat West Quarterly Survey of small businesses. The authors reached three major conclusions from their analysis: that the results of such surveys are fairly consistent; that they provide a reasonably good guide to changes in the economy; and that the then current trends pointed to an economic recovery beginning early next year. The forthcoming issue will update that judgement in the light of more recent results.

The next issue will include an article on international comparisons of small firms statistics, adding further to the data given in the February issue of *LMQR*. This will help to underline the difficulties of making such comparisons and, in casting fresh light on the quality of the data for other countries, show that the difference between the size of the UK small firms sector and that in other countries is perhaps greater than is apparent from the data reported in the *LMQR*. The broad conclusion remains the same however, that while the small firms sector in the UK continues to be relatively small when compared with other countries, the gap has narrowed substantially over the last decade.

Further evidence of the importance of small firms to the economy is given by an article in the November 1991 issue of *Employment Gazette*, Job creation 1987-89; the contributions of small and large firms. Summarising the results of recent ED Funded research carried out at Newcastle University, the article shows that in the period under study, firms employing fewer than 10 people created over ½ million jobs, almost as many as larger firms, despite those larger firms having four times as big a share in overall employment.

This follows the pattern established by previous research, but the latest results include some fascinating new findings. First, while it has been well established that the bulk of job generation is accounted for by firms employing fewer than 20 people, the latest study shows that in fact it is those firms employing fewer than 10 people which are the major

engines of job growth.

The article also contains the clearest demonstration yet that job growth is spread among a large number of firms, so that it would be by no means as easy, or as rewarding, as some have suggested, to adopt a policy of 'picking winners'.

Finally, comparison with results of earlier studies shows a pattern previously observed for the United States. The amount of job generation amongst large firms varies greatly from one stage of the economic cycle to another, while the contribution of smaller firms appears to be - by comparison - relatively stable. The overall job generation from firms employing fewer than 20 people was, at around ½ million, very similar in 1987-89 to that in 1985-87. Yet the later period was one of very much faster overall employment growth. Larger firms by contrast created an additional ½ million jobs in the latter period, but virtually none in the earlier period.

The most appealing explanation for this phenomenon is that while firms of all sizes suffer adverse effects from recession, there are some factors which tend to promote small firms growth in such times, offsetting the negative effects. Such factors include the withdrawal from marginal activities of large firms, leaving niches for small firms to start up or expand; contracting out of business services by large firms; people starting their own business as a response to threatened or actual redundancy.

Further research is already under way to try and explain these results; some clarification can be expected in the light of results for the next period, 1989-91.

Details of the availability of VAT data for local areas can be obtained from:

Employment Department
Statistical Services C4
Room W626
Moorfoot
SHEFFIELD S1 4PQ.

Further details of the National Online Manpower Information System can be obtained from:

NOMIS Unit 3p
Mountjoy Research Centre
University of Durham
DURHAM DH1 3SW.

Copies of the *Nat West Review of Small Business Trends* can be obtained from the

Small Business Research Trust
Open University
Walton Hall
MILTON KEYNES MK7 6AA

at a price of £25 per issue or £45 for a year.

Environment

Statistical Users Council Annual Conference

The Annual Conference was held on 26 November 1991 and was devoted to housebuilding and construction statistics. Twenty papers were presented and there were 200 representatives from construction trade and research associations, the universities and major firms.

The conference was opened by the Minister for Housing and Planning (Sir George Young), who welcomed the contribution of statisticians and announced funding for a consultancy to improve the systems for construction statistics. The two main papers from the Department of the Environment were delivered by John Lithgow on the statistics on the construction industry, and by Mike Hughes on housebuilding statistics. Additionally, Ian Corner from the Building Research Establishment presented a paper about Modelling Housing Demand, and Ann Kirkham one on Housing Stock Condition. European statistics were covered by speakers from Euro Construct and Eurostat, and by Graham Jenkinson from the Central Statistical Office on the new methods of collecting import and export statistics. Some of the users who presented papers were NEDO, Building Cost Information Service, the Export Group of the Constructional Industries. A number of large firms and trade and research associations also provided speakers.

There was a lively and informative exchange of views and ideas, including the identification of the types of additional information the industry would find most useful. Sir Jack Hibbert indicated that there was some relaxation in the Rayner rules for providing data for industry. The conference brought together representatives from a very fragmented industry, and one of the outcomes was the enthusiastic response to an invitation by the DOE to set up a statistical liaison group with the industry. Full documentation of the conference's proceedings will be published.

Land Use Change in England: 1985-90

The latest edition of this series of Statistical Bulletins was published by the Department of the Environment in March 1992. The Bulletin presents the results of the Department's statistics on changes in land use in England recorded during 1985-1990. Details of changes in land use are recorded for the Department by Ordnance Survey (OS) as part of its map revision work throughout Great Britain.

Previous Bulletins have presented results for changes of use recorded by OS in the latest year. The pattern of OS field activity is such that physical development tends to be recorded relatively sooner than changes between other uses, some of which may not be recorded for some years. Research carried out for the Department has shown that the recording period (1985-1990) is now sufficiently long to present estimates for changes that actually occurred in 1985 and 1986, and to provide information for smaller geographical areas (counties) about changes to urban and residential uses. These results appear in the new Bulletin for the first time.

To enable comparison with previous Bulletins, results are also presented for changes recorded during 1990. Also the complete dataset is used to present results of changes recorded during the period 1985-1990. A summary table has been included to compare key results presented by year of change and by year of recording. Definitions of the land use categories are given in the Bulletin.

Reference

Department of the Environment Statistical Bulletin (92)3 Land Use Change in England: 1985-90

Price and copies of the Bulletin are available from:

Department of the Environment
Publications Sales Unit
Building 3, Spur 2, Room 1
Government Buildings
Limegrove
Eastcote
Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 8SE
Telephone: 081-429 5170

Scottish Office Environment

Housing Trends in Scotland - quarter ended 30 June 1991

This Bulletin presents the standard quarterly analyses of housing stock by tenure, new housebuilding, council house sales and the improvement of existing dwellings. Annual tables cover energy conservation, public sector stock and vacant stock and gives more detailed analyses of housing for the elderly and disabled.

Housing Trends in Scotland - quarter ended 30 September 1991

This Bulletin presents the standard quarterly analyses and annual information which updates the analysis of housing for the elderly and disabled.

Future issues:

The Bulletin on housing trends for the quarter ended 31 December 1991 is scheduled for publication in June 1992. Annual tables will present statistics on estimated age distribution of stock of dwellings, Housing Revenue Account - Local Authorities Expenditure and Income: near-actual figures, housing capital payments and allocations, Housing Support Grant.

Topic Bulletins:

Lead Plumbing in Scottish Houses: Estimates by Local Authorities and Other Housing Bodies

This Bulletin presents information obtained from a survey conducted by the Scottish Office Environment Department to inform decisions about the best use of the grant system.

Operation of the Homeless Persons Legislation in Scotland 1979/80-1990/91

This Bulletin presents statistics on how local authorities assessed and dealt with applicant households under the homeless persons legislation in Scotland. Figures for 1990/91 are provisional and a further Statistical Bulletin is planned, giving information by local authority district, for March 1992.

General Register Office for Scotland

Vital Statistics: Scotland

Tables relating to the third quarter of 1991 were included in the Registrar General's *Vital Statistics Return*, Weeks 45 to 48.

Tables relating to the fourth quarter of 1991 and Provisional Annual tables showing information on 1991 vital events were published during March.

Personal Names in Scotland

The booklet was published on 23 October. This booklet contains tables showing the top 100 forenames of boys and girls based on the 1990 birth registration. It also contains tables and maps showing the distribution of surnames based on the 1990 birth, death and marriage registrations. Copies of the booklet, price £2.95 net, are available from:

Vital Statistics Branch
General Register Office for Scotland
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
EDINBURGH EH12 7TF

NHS Hospital and Community Health Services Non-Medical Staff in Post in England 1981-1990

This first in a new series of annual Statistical Bulletins on NHS non-medical staff in England was published by the Department of Health in December 1991. It covers statistics for England over the period 1981 to 1990. The main points to note are:

- Nearly one million people are employed in the NHS Hospital and Community Health Services in England
- The overall total is equivalent to about 800000 whole time equivalents
- About half of the workforce are Nursing and Midwifery staff
- Women account for more than three quarters of the non-medical: WTE workforce
- About 25 per cent of the WTE non-medical workforce are part-time workers. Nearly all of these are women.

Further details about the statistics in this Bulletin can be obtained from:

Mr B Danson
Department of Health
Statistics and Management Information
Division
Branch SM13B
Room 1020
Hannibal House
Elephant & Castle
LONDON SE1 6TE
Telephone: 071-972 2359

Hospital, Public Health Medicine and Community Health Service Medical and Dental Staff

The third annual Statistical Bulletin on medical and dental manpower in England was published by the Department of Health in December 1991. It analyses statistics and trends for England over the period 1981 to 1990. The main points to note are:

- The total number of hospital and community health service medical and dental staff has grown since 1981 at an average annual rate of 1.2 per cent to 59622 in 1990
- The number of hospital medical consultants has grown, on average, by 2.3 per cent each year during the period 1981-1990 to 15203
- The number of junior hospital doctors has grown, on average, by 1.4 per cent each year to 23446 in 1990
- The proportion of female hospital medical staff has increased steadily. The average rate of growth of all female hospital medical staff was 4.4 per cent - nearly three times that of all hospital medical staff. They now represent almost 27 per cent of the total number of staff.

Further details about the statistics in this Bulletin can be obtained from:

Mr S Miller
Department of Health
Statistics and Management Information
Division
Branch SMI3A
Room 116
Hannibal House
Elephant & Castle
LONDON SE1 6TE
Telephone: 071-972 2614

Health and Safety Statistics

*The Health and Safety Statistics Report 1989/90*¹ was published as a supplement to the September 1991 issue of the *Employment Gazette*. It contains detailed analysis of occupational injury and ill health statistics for 1989/90 and studies trends over recent years. Analysis is provided by kind of accident, industry, occupation, age and sex of the injured person, together with analyses tabulated by nature and site of the injury caused.

This year's report also contains an in depth analysis of statistics on enforcement action taken for breaches of health and safety legislation, including numbers of prosecutions taken, and enforcement notices issued, by HSE. Analysis is provided of the subject of offence and the legislation under which the action was taken, together with details of the outcome of these proceedings, including average levels of fines imposed.

December saw the publication of the *Health and Safety Commission's Annual Report for 1990/91*² including a Statistical Report at Part II. Although less detailed than the *Employment Gazette* supplement it provides more up to date statistics, publishing provisional data for 1990/91. A broad analysis of the injuries occurring, and enforcement action taken, during the year is provided, together with a study of trends for the main employment sectors during the 1980s. As in last year's report, a number of special features are presented including an in depth study of injuries in the construction sector, and a 5 year review of industries with high injury numbers or rates.

The Annual Report publishes the initial findings of the HSE commissioned Labour Force Survey health and safety supplement. This household based survey was designed to complement the data regularly collected under RIDDOR. Its findings provide the first firm estimate of the level of under-reporting of injuries experienced under RIDDOR, and the implications on the relative injury incidence rates of the main employment sectors are considered.

The *Local Authorities Report on Health and Safety in*

*Service Industries 1989/90*³ contains health and safety statistics for the year for premises inspected by local authorities, such as offices, shops and catering establishments. Trends in injuries and enforcement action with these premises are examined.

A number of other reports have been compiled by the Statistical Services Unit of the HSE on various elements of health and safety statistics which have been published in trade journals or assisted in the launch of trade shows or other publications. These include studies of fatal injuries in the agricultural, manufacturing and construction sectors, key facts sheets on particular kinds of accident eg handling or sites of injury eg the eye or back and, manufacturing sector profiles - in depth analyses for particular industries eg timber, paper and printing and chemicals.

Further details about these items are available from:

HSE Statistical Services Unit
Room 512
Daniel House
Stanley Road
BOOTLE L20 7HE
Telephone: 051-951 4862/4604 (GTN 2023)

References

¹ *Health and Safety Statistics Report 1989/90* published as a supplement to September 1991 issue of *Employment Gazette*, available free of charge from the above address

² *Health and Safety Commission Annual Report 1990/91*
price £10.00 net, ISBN 0 11 885726 6

³ *Local Authorities Report on Health and Safety in Service Industries 1989/90*
price £3.50 net, ISBN 0 11 885656 1

Home Office

Control of Immigration: Statistics - first and second quarters 1991

The regular Home Office Statistical Bulletin on the control of immigration was published on 31 October

1991. This contains information on acceptances for settlement in the United Kingdom, on entry clearance applications for settlement made in the Indian sub-continent, and on persons dealt with under enforcement powers as illegal entrants or under the deportation process. 51,500 persons were accepted for settlement in the 12 months ending June 1991, 750 less than in the previous 12 months though 5,500 more than the low figure in 1987. The fall was due to the initial effect of the requirement in May 1990 for Commonwealth citizens with a UK-born grandparent to serve a four-year qualifying period before settlement. 4,900 persons left the United Kingdom in the latest 12 months as a result of enforcement action, 700 more than in the previous 12 months and 2,200 more than in 1987. The higher numbers in the last few years reflect more effective enforcement procedures.

Reference:

Control of Immigration: Statistics - first and second quarters 1991
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, issue 25/91

Office of Manpower Economics

Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration

The Twenty-Second Report by the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration (Chairman, Sir Trevor Holdsworth) was published in February 1992: it recommends pay levels, for the year from 1 April 1992, for doctors and dentists in the National Health Service.

Details of the pay recommendations are in Appendix A.

Reference

Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration, Twenty-Second Report, 1992
Cm 1813
HMSO, February 1992, price £7.70 net

Pay of Professions Allied to Medicine

The Ninth Report on Professions Allied to Medicine by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine

(Chairman, Michael Bett) was published in February 1992. It commends pay levels, for the year from 1 April 1992, for chiropodists, dietitians, occupational therapists, orthoptists, physiotherapists, radiographers, and related grades in the National Health Service (NHS). Recommended pay scales are in Appendix A, together with equivalent levels for 1 April 1991; equivalent information about certain allowances is in Appendix B; and details of the numbers covered and paybill are in Appendices C and D respectively.

Appendix E contains results from a manpower survey, carried out by the Personnel Development Unit in conjunction with the professions, of members of the professions and related grades employed in the NHS. Details of vacancies, leavers and joiners in Great Britain in the professions covered by the Review Body are given, together with a matched sample comparison with the results of the previous year's survey. The response rate varied by profession, but in no case was less than 90 per cent. The sources of joiners and the destination/reason for leaving of leavers are analysed by profession; and details of vacancies are given by profession, and by grade, region/country, London weighting zone and type of district both in total and within each of the five largest professions.

Additionally, the results of an unpublished survey - covering early career pay and conditions of service for jobs outside the NHS with academic entry requirements equivalent to those required for entrance to the professions allied to medicine or to training for them - were used by the Review Body in the course of the review.

Reference

Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Ninth Report on Professions Allied to Medicine, 1992
Cm 1812
HMSO, February 1992, price £7.95 net

Pay of Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors

The Ninth Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions

Allied to Medicine (Chairman, Michael Bett) was published in February 1992 and recommends pay levels in the National Health Service (NHS) for the year from 1 April 1992. Recommended pay scales are in Appendix A, together with equivalent levels for 1 April 1991; equivalent information about certain allowances is in Appendix B; and details of the numbers covered and paybill are in Appendices C and D respectively.

Appendix E contains the results of a survey of vacancies amongst nursing staff employed in the NHS. It covered all 222 district health authorities or equivalent in Great Britain, of which 174 (78 per cent) provided usable information. Results are given by regrade and by area of work, in total and within country, region, London weighting zone and type of district. A matched sample comparison with the results of an unpublished survey - covering early career pay and conditions of service for jobs outside the NHS with academic entry requirements equivalent to those required for entrance to schools of nursing - were used by the Review Body in the course of the review.

Reference

Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Ninth Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, 1992

Cmd 1811

HMSO, February 1992, price £7.65 net

Armed Forces Pay

The Twenty-First Report by the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay (Chairman, Sir Peter Cazalet) was published in February 1992 and recommends pay, accommodation and food charges for Service ranks up to and including Brigadier (and equivalent), to apply from 1 April 1992.

Details of the main recommended levels of military salary (using Army ranks) are in Tables 1-3, and of accommodation charges in Tables 7-9. Levels of military salary introduced at 1 April 1991 are given in Appendix 3.

The results of three unpublished remuneration sur-

veys - covering comparators for officers, for Corporals, and for Warrant Officers and senior non-commissioned officers - were used by the Review Body as a guide to judgement in determining appropriate levels of military salary. Appendix 2 gives the background to the earnings comparisons undertaken by the Review Body.

Reference

Review Body on Armed Forces Pay, Twenty-First Report, 1992

Cm 1815

HMSO, February 1992, price £6.25 net

School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service

The First Report by the School Teachers' Review Body (Chairman, Sir Graham Day) was published in February 1992. It recommends levels of remuneration, mostly for the year from 1 April 1992, for teachers in maintained schools in England and Wales.

The Report also includes sections on teacher recruitment and retention, performance-related pay and conditions of service. Current and recommended salary levels are set out in Appendix C. An estimate of the teachers' paybill for 1992-93 is in Appendix D. A selection of relevant statistics on teachers, supplied by the Department of Education and Science and the Local Government Management Board, is in Appendix E.

Reference

School Teachers' Review Body, First Report, 1992

Cm 1806

HMSO, February 1992, price £8.20 net

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

Population Trends

The latest edition of *Population Trends*, the quarterly journal of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS), was published in December and contains the following articles:

A review of 1990

The review focuses on the changes between 1989 and 1990 in England and Wales in the population size and composition, mortality, marriage, divorce, fertility, and migration.

The 1991 Census - A cause for concern?

by Peter Wormald, Registrar General for England Wales and Director of OPCS

This article is based on a seminar talk given to the Royal Institute of Public Administration on 4 October 1991. It discusses the undercount in the preliminary results and explains the causes and significance of this undercount. The article also considers the undercount in the context of the main census output that is now being prepared and explains how the final census counts will be adjusted to produce the official population estimates.

Dying away from home: the influence on mortality statistics

by Vera Carstairs of the Department of Community Medicine, Edinburgh University

Deaths occurring away from home are registered where they occur, but for statistical purposes most are 'transferred back' to the area of residence only if they occur in the same country. Within the United Kingdom, Scotland and Northern Ireland count as separate countries from England and Wales for registration purposes.

Residents from each of these three countries dying elsewhere in the UK are not transferred back to their country of residence, but are included in the events for the country and local area in which they occur. The inclusion of these deaths in the statistics for the areas in which they occurred will have little effect on national statistics, but may result in a bias in the death rates at the local level. This article examines the way these deaths may affect the comparability of mortality statistics with particular reference to Scotland.

The expectation of life without disability in England and Wales: 1976-88

by A C Bebbington of the University of Kent

Life expectancy has improved steadily throughout this century and death rates continue to decline particularly in middle and early old age. This article uses health data from the General Household Survey between 1976 and 1988 to assess whether the increase in life expectancy in England and Wales was accompanied by improvements in the amount of life free from disability.

Population estimates by cohabitation and legal marital status - a trial set of new estimates

by John Haskey and Sue Kelly of Demographic Analysis and Vital Statistics Division, OPCS

This article presents an entirely new set of population estimates for Great Britain, by both legal marital status and cohabitation status, and gives information on the methodology used for their derivation, and estimates of some new fertility and marriage rates. These new estimates, and the results derived from them, are presented as a trial exercise for discussion and evaluation.

Childhood Mortality Statistics for 1989

Statistics on infant and childhood mortality published recently by OPCS reported a 7 per cent decrease in the infant mortality rate, from 9.0 to 8.4 per 1000 live births.

Between 1971 and 1989, the mortality rates for boys aged 1-4 decreased by 42 per cent from 76 to 44 per 100,000 population, and for girls by 43 per cent from 63 to 36 per 100,000 population. Over the same period in the 5-14 age group the rate decreased from 41 to 23 for boys (44 per cent) and from 26 to 16 for girls (38 per cent).

Injury and poisoning continued to be a major cause of childhood deaths outside the postneonatal period. The death rate for boys due to these causes is approximately double that for girls.

Reference

Mortality Statistics: childhood 1989 England and Wales

(Series DH6 no 3)

HMSO, price £10.30 net

ISBN 0 11 691360 6

Mortality Statistics: Cause 1990

A detailed analysis of the causes of death by age and sex in England and Wales in 1990 is presented in a report published recently by OPCS.

The total number of deaths from all causes registered in 1990 was 564,846, compared with 576,872 in 1989, a decrease of 2 per cent. Nearly half (259,247) of these deaths were from diseases of the circulatory system, although since 1987 male and female deaths from this cause have decreased by 5 per cent and 3 per cent respectively.

Reference

Mortality statistics: cause 1990
(Series DH2 no 17)
HMSO, price £11.10 net
ISBN 0 11 691363 0

Cigarette Smoking 1972 to 1990

Statistics about cigarette smoking in Great Britain collected in the General Household Survey (GHS) during 1990, together with comparative data for earlier years, was published recently in an OPCS Monitor.

Questions about smoking were first included in the GHS in 1972. They were asked each year from 1972 to 1976, and since 1976 have been included in alternate years. The most recent figures are published in advance of the main GHS report for 1990, which will contain further analyses of the smoking data, including information about cigar and pipe smoking.

Reference

General Household Survey: Cigarette smoking 1972 to 1990
(OPCS Monitor SS 91/3)
price £2.00 net
ISSN 0262 8392

Abortion Statistics 1990

Statistics derived from an analysis of legally induced abortions within England and Wales during 1990 was published recently by OPCS.

The volume presents a wide range of statistical analyses of abortion notifications covering factors such as demographic, statutory grounds, procedure, complications, deaths, area of residence and medical condition.

There were 186,912 legal abortions performed in England and Wales in 1990, compared with 183,974 in 1989, an increase of 2,938 (1.6 per cent).

Reference

Abortion statistics 1990 England and Wales
(Series AB no 17)
HMSO, price £8.80 net
ISSN 0 11 691352 5

Population Projections for Local Areas in England

Population projections for local and health authority areas in England, analysed by sex and age, are published in a recently available OPCS report. The projections are based on the estimated mid-1989 populations in these areas and provide a guide to the possible size and distribution of the populations up to the year 2011.

The regions with the fastest growing populations over the next two decades are expected to be East Anglia and the South West. Between 1989 and 2011 the population of East Anglia is projected to increase by 16 per cent (from 2.04 million to 2.38 million) and that of the South West by 15 per cent (from 4.65 million to 5.34 million).

Reference

Sub-national population projections, 1989-based England
(Series PP3 no 8)
HMSO, price £11.10 net
ISBN 0 11 691362 2

Key Population and Vital Statistics: Local and Health Authority Areas 1990

Key statistics about the population in each local authority and health authority area in England and Wales in 1990 were published recently by OPCS. It

brings together in one publication a wealth of information on the size and age distribution of the population, the numbers of births and deaths, and the volume of migration.

In 1990 the resident population of England and Wales was estimated to be 50.7 million people, an increase of 156.3 thousand (0.3 per cent) since 1989, and of 1.1 million (2.2 per cent) since 1981. The South East continued to be the most populous region in England, with 17.5 million people, an increase of 73.8 thousand (0.4 per cent) since 1989 and of 447.4 thousand (2.6 per cent) since 1981.

Reference

Key Population and Vital Statistics: local and health authority areas 1990 England and Wales
(Series VS no 17/PP1 no 13)
HMSO, price £10.30 net
ISBN 0 11 691364 9

Making a Population Estimate in England and Wales

The current and earlier methods used by OPCS, to estimate the size of the populations of England and Wales are described in a recently published report.

The estimates, produced annually by OPCS, are one of the oldest and most important statistical series in England and Wales. Their origins and subsequent development, through to the methods used in the 1980s, for both national and local areas, are described in detail.

The different elements needed to produce a population estimate are discussed, including natural change and migration. The sources used for estimating migration are described.

The methods which will be used to calculate mid-1991 estimates using results from the 1991 Census are also explained. These estimates will be the new base for the next decade's population estimates.

Reference

Making a population estimate in England and Wales
(OPCS Occasional Paper 37)

price £3.75 net
ISBN 0 90452 73

Leisure Day Visits

Findings from Leisure Day Visits in Great Britain 1988/1989, a survey carried out during the period April 1988 to March 1989 by Social Survey Division of OPCS, on behalf of the Employment Department and the British Tourist Authority/English Tourist Board, were published recently by OPCS.

The purpose of the survey was to provide information about a sector of the tourism industry for which no information was available on a regular basis. Its aim was to collect information about leisure day visits that lasted three hours or more, but less than twenty-four hours, made by the resident population of Great Britain. Information was collected by the addition of a questionnaire to the General Household Survey.

The survey showed that people took part in 1.7 billion such visits, and spent £10.6 billion whilst doing so. The most common single purpose of these visits (about one fifth) was visiting or meeting friends or relatives.

Reference

Leisure day visits in Great Britain 1988/89
(Series SS 1279)
HMSO, price £40.00 net
ISBN 0 11 691358 4

Compiling the Electoral Register 1990

Since 1987 the Home Office has commissioned OPCS to carry out an annual postal survey of every Electoral Registration Office in England and Wales. The results of the 1990 survey were published recently by OPCS.

The aims of the research were firstly, to find out about the current procedures for compiling the electoral register. Secondly, to establish the kind of statistical information which could be provided and used as surrogate indicators of the likely accuracy of the register.

The survey found that, when compiling the electoral

registers in 1990, a final response rate of at least 95 per cent was obtained by 59 per cent of local authorities, a slight decrease from 1989 (61 per cent). Overall, a similar number of additions and deletions to the register were reported. However, as in 1989, there was a net decrease in the London boroughs and densely populated non-metropolitan districts.

Reference

Compiling the electoral register 1990
(Series SS1280)
HMSO, price £9.80 net
ISBN 0 11 691350 9

A Review of Migration Data Sources

Recommendations which will form the basis of a programme for improving estimates of migration for England and Wales over the next few years were published recently in an OPCS report.

The production of annual population estimates depends crucially on data sources used to estimate migration. Accurate figures of births and deaths are available from the registration system, but no such totally reliable sources are available for estimating migration.

The report contains a full description and appraisal of the data sources currently used, and makes a number of recommendations for improvement in their use. Possible new sources are also reviewed.

Reference

A review of migration data sources
(OPCS Occasional Paper 39)
price £4.50 net
ISBN 0 904952 74 6

OFTEL

Telephone Service in 1991

OFTEL published in December 1991 its annual report presenting information from surveys of quality of service and other aspects of telephone service during the year. The aim of the report is to comple-

ment the statistics published by BT and Mercury in their 6 monthly Quality of Service Reports by covering broader aspects of quality of service and attitudes expressed by consumers.

The report contains a variety of data covering general satisfaction with BT's service, representations and complaints to OFTEL, telephone selling nuisance calls, directory enquiries, public call boxes, recorded announcements on mobile phones, types of telephone connections and calls to emergency services.

Copies of OFTEL's Report are available from OFTEL's Press Office, Telephone: 071-822 1519

Treasury

The Statistical Supplement to the 1991 Autumn Statement

The *Statistical Supplement to the 1991 Autumn Statement* provides a summary of the Government's spending plans for the period 1992-93 to 1994-95. The Supplement, which was published on 31 January 1992, provides further detail of the overall expenditure plans announced in the Chancellor's 1991 Autumn Statement.

The first section of the Supplement gives an explanation of the measurement of public expenditure and related concepts and an overall summary of expenditure plans. Section 2 presents a number of summary analyses covering historical trends in public expenditure and general government expenditure by function and by economic category. Section 3 provides a range of analyses of the planning total by spending sector, department and economic category. Section 4 provides similar analyses to those in Section 3 but for central government expenditure (including the financing requirements of public corporations other than nationalised industries) only; the section also gives details on central government spending on asset creation and on science and technology, sales and purchases of land and existing buildings, and departmental figures for running costs and manpower. Section 5 summarises the government's plans for support for spending carried out by local authorities and provides information on past and current local authority expen-

diture. The external financing and capital requirements of the nationalised industries are set out in Section 6. Section 7 provides details of changes from previously published plans. Section 8 provides a number of additional analyses, covering asset creation by the public sector as a whole, privatisation proceeds, sales and purchases of land and existing buildings and public sector manpower. The Supplement also contains a number of appendices; these present analyses of expenditure by territory and region, an explanation of the relationship between the public expenditure planning total and general government expenditure, details of the conventions and economic assumptions which underlie the Supplement and estimates of costs of tax allowances and reliefs.

More detailed information on each department's spending plans is set out in a series of individual departmental reports (Cm 1901-1919) published in February. In addition to details of spending plans, these reports provide data on output measures, performance and value for money. The Supplement contains an index to these departmental reports. The Supplement and these reports were introduced in 1991 as replacements for the annual public expenditure White Paper.

References

Statistical Supplement to the 1991 Autumn Statement
CM1920

HMSO, February 1992, price £17.20 net
ISBN 0 10 119202 9

Civil Service Statistics

Civil Service Statistics 1991 Edition was published in November 1991 by HMSO for the Treasury. It gives a broad statistical picture of staffing in the Civil Service and provides relevant facts and figures contrasting these with the picture for previous years.

The major part of the booklet is a series of tables showing the numbers of civil servants, where they work and how they are organised. The tables also show the relative sizes of the groups and grades, recruitment and turnover trends, grading and structure.

The introduction to the booklet provides some background information and draws out key facts from the tables, illustrated by graphs and charts. Among the topics covered in this edition are the 'Next Steps' Agencies, resignation rates, equal opportunities and part time working.

A selected bibliography is included.

Reference

Civil Service Statistics 1991 Edition
HMSO, price £10.80 net

Produced alongside the main publication is a summary handout, *Key figures on Civil Service staffing*, which is available free on request from the

Personnel Statistics Division
HM Treasury
Parliament Street
LONDON SW1P 3AG
Telephone: 071-270 5272 or 5268.

Other Publications

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin

In addition to regular articles providing commentary on recent developments in the UK and world economies and on domestic and international financial markets, the November 1991 issue of the *Bank's Quarterly Bulletin* contains the following items.

The LDC debt crisis

The less developed country (LDC) debt crisis erupted in the early 1980s. This article describes the economic background, outlines the institutional framework that was established for dealing with debt servicing difficulties, and examines the evolution of the debt strategy over the last decade. It concludes that the threat posed to the international financial system has now receded; and shows how debt reduction by both bank and official creditors has increasingly come to be seen as an important catalyst for economic reform. Market-based debt-reduction by banks appears to be having some success in a number of middle-income countries and debt indicators have begun to improve. But the plight of the poorest countries remains as serious as ever, and the main industrial countries have committed themselves to further debt relief.

The performance of major British banks, 1970-90

Over the past two decades, financial deregulation, and advances in technology, have radically changed the structure of the British banking sector. These developments have been accompanied by increased prudential supervision. Using publicly available data only, this article describes the effect of these changes on the performance of the four largest banks, and how they have responded, in particular with a much greater emphasis on cost control; a greater questioning of whether business justifies the capital it requires; and diversification into less capital intensive fee-earning areas such as insurance.

The international bond market

During the 1980s, bond markets became increas-

ingly internationalised. The predominantly London-based eurobond market has seen rapid growth; foreign investors, issuers and intermediaries have been increasingly active in the major domestic markets; and interactions between domestic bond markets and eurobond markets have grown. These developments have been partly spurred on by greater global economic interdependence, financial liberalisation, and technological innovation. This article examines the expansion of the eurobond market, the increasing links between euro, domestic and foreign bond markets, and the extent to which a truly, global homogenous market place has begun to emerge.

The external balance sheet of the United Kingdom: recent developments

This article, one in an annual series, analyses changes in the United Kingdom's net external assets in 1990. It considers, in particular, the relative impact of changes in exchange rates and asset prices on the external balance sheet, and examines the possibility of estimating a more 'stable', underlying measure of net external assets.

Patterns of default in the non-financial private sectors

The current recession has been accompanied by an unprecedented rise in the incidence of default on loans by both households and companies. This note seeks to clarify the reasons for these patterns of default, by relating them not only to general economic conditions, but also to the state of private sector balance sheets which exhibited a considerable increase in gearing during the 1980s. A number of other factors are also considered.

The net debt of the public sector: end-March 1991

This article updates statistical tables on public sector consolidated debt, liquid assets and net debt; and also includes the annual analysis of the distribution of the national debt by instrument and by holder. The article shows that in 1990/91 the net debt of the public sector and market holdings of the national

debt rose by around £4 billion and £3 billion respectively, although both measures fell slightly as a proportion of GDP.

Profitability of large companies

This article presents estimates of company profitability since 1986 derived from the published accounts of around 1,400 of the largest UK companies. The estimates show that in 1990 the return on net assets of the sample companies declined against the background of a sharp slowdown in domestic demand and output growth. Most sectors were affected, with the decline spread across both manufacturing and non manufacturing companies.

Other Items

The November issue of the Bulletin also reprints the Governor's Mansion House speech, on the importance of stability of prices and stability of policy, and a further speech by the Governor on some of the necessary pre-conditions for economic union in Europe.

The *Bank's Quarterly Bulletin* may be obtained price £7.50 per copy or £27.00 for an annual subscription from:

Publications Group
Economics Division
Bank of England
Threadneedle Street
LONDON EC2R 8AH

Conferences and Training

University of Warwick

One-day seminar on International Statistics: Sources for Business Planning and Market Research

Date: Friday 8 May 1992
Venue: Scarman House Conference Centre
Cost: £140 for subscribers to the Business Information Service
£150 for non-subscribers

Information about overseas economic and market conditions is becoming increasingly vital to UK business. The purpose of the seminar is to give an overview of the many statistical sources available on overseas markets and how these can be accessed.

Speakers will outline the range of statistics available from both official and non-official sources and will also look at the increasing amount of relevant statistical information available on-line. In addition markets which are of particular current interest will be covered, including the European Community, the Asia Pacific area and Africa.

One-day seminar on Sources of Economic, Industrial and Population Forecasts

Date: Wednesday, 10 June 1992
Venue: Scarman House Conference Centre
Cost: £140 for subscribers to the Business Information Service
£150 for non-subscribers

A one-day seminar reviewing the growing number of forecasts and projections available on the national economy and specific sectors.

The seminar will start with a review of forecasting techniques and the major forecasting organisations. Other speakers will concentrate on specific areas such as industry forecasts, business opinion surveys and population projections. Finally, a speaker from a specific company will describe the forecasting work carried out by their organisation.

The seminar will be particularly useful to those involved in business planning and marketing but will also be of interest to economic researchers, business information officers and librarians.

One-day seminar on Sources for Business Planning and Market Research

- Date:** Tuesday, 7 July 1992
- Venue:** Radcliffe House Conference Centre
University of Warwick
- Cost:** £140 for subscribers to the Business Information Service
£150 for non-subscribers

Statistical data produced by a wide range of non-governmental bodies is increasing in importance as a source of business and market information. This

seminar will review the major sources of non-official statistics, both on the UK and the rest of Europe, and will examine the advantages and disadvantages of accessing and using these sources. Specific areas to be covered include statistics available from trade associations, trade journals, financial institutions and market research organisations.

For further information on the above and other seminars telephone or write to:

Mr Marcus Woolley
University of Warwick Library
Gibbet Hill Road
COVENTRY CV4 7AL
Telephone: 0203-524211

Government Statistical Service

Review of Regular Surveys

Most regular surveys to businesses and local authorities are subject to a quinquennial departmental review and a report which is monitored by the Survey Control Unit and cleared by Ministers. The following surveys have recently had a complete review. Any enquiries concerning a survey or its review should be made to the appropriate departmental contact point given below.

Surveys to Local Authorities

General Development Control PS1/PS2 Returns Planning Decisions

Mr R Laux
DOE
Room P1/179A
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB

Salaries and Wages Return

- Local Financial Returns
- Education
 - Libraries/Museums
 - Social Work
 - Road Transport
 - Water, Sewage and Environmental Services

- Local Financial Returns
- Planning Services
 - Recreation Services
 - Other Services
 - Central Administration
 - Housing
 - Water
 - Revenue Producing Undertakings
 - Special Funds
 - Superannuation
 - Common Good

Capital Payments Return Rateable Values in Scotland.

Mr P Scrimgeour
Central Statistics Unit
The Scottish Office
Room 6/95A
New St Andrews House
St James Centre
EDINBURGH EH1 3SX

Children in Care or Under Supervision Review

Mr A J Harvey
The Scottish Office
Social Work Services Group
43 Jeffrey Street
EDINBURGH EH1 1DN

Appointments and Changes

Staff Changes

Obituary

GEORGE ("TOBY") PAINE, CB, DFC, born 14.4.18 died 2 March 1992

Toby Paine, as he was universally known, came from a farming family in Kent, a background which was to remain important to him throughout his life. He was educated at Bradfield College and Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he read mathematics and took a double first. He joined the RAF in 1942 where he served as a Flight Lieutenant with characteristic bravery and was awarded the DFC in 1944.

He entered the statistician class of the Home Civil Service in 1948. A year later he was transferred to the company statistics post at the Board of Inland Revenue. From 1954 to 1957 he was the company sector statistician at the Central Statistical Office and in 1957 moved to the Board of Trade on promotion to Chief Statistician.

After only a few months there, Toby moved back to the Board of Inland Revenue to replace Reginald Beales as Director of the Statistics Division, first at Chief Statistician, level and then from 1966 as Under-Secretary.

In 1972 he became the first professional statistician to occupy the post of Registrar General for England and Wales and Director of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, which had been formed in 1970 by the merger of the General Register Office and the Government Social Survey. He held this post with distinction until his retirement. He was made a CB in 1974.

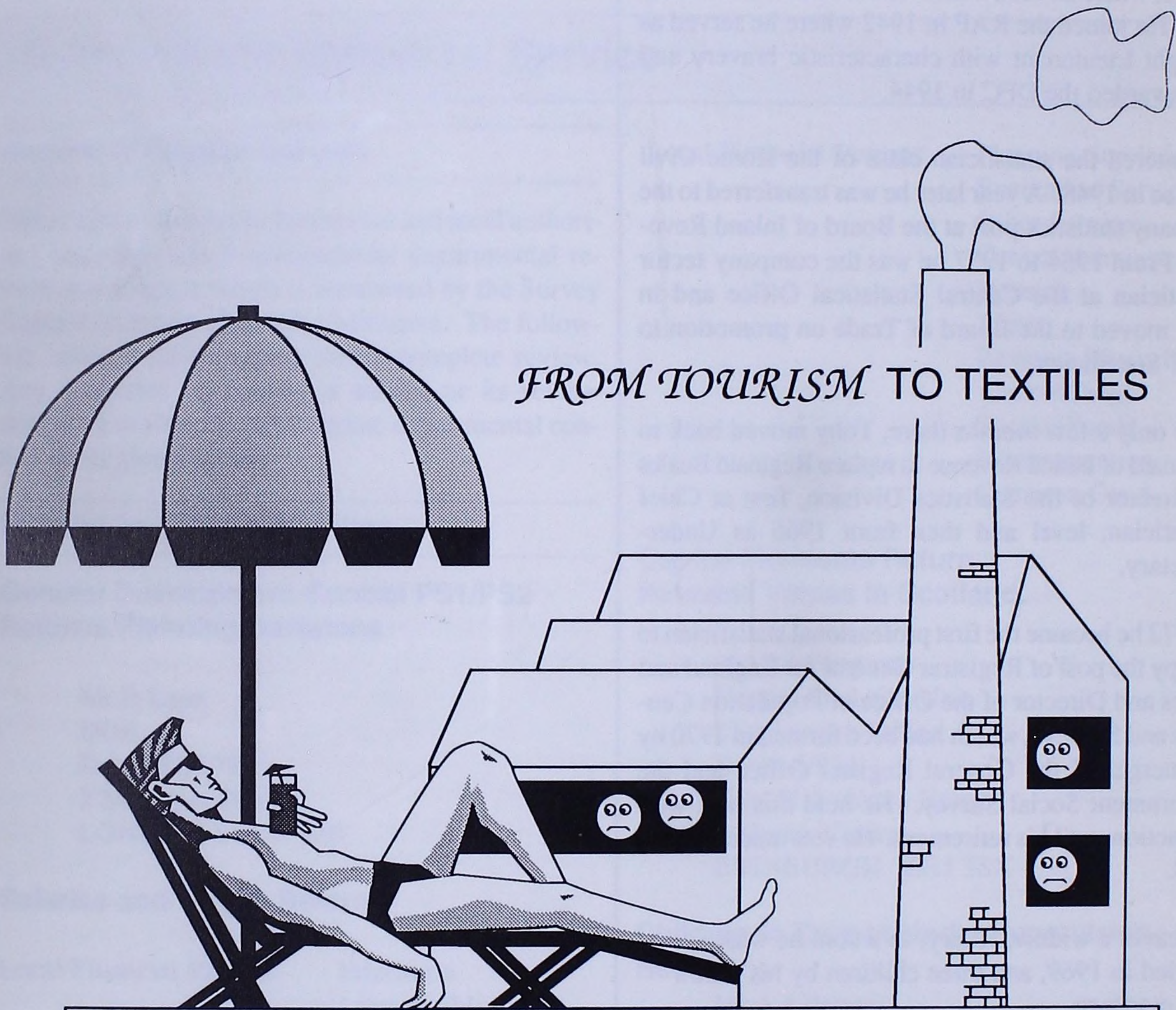
He leaves a widow, Hilary, to whom he was married in 1969, and three children by his wife's first marriage.

Transfer

Mr F Johnson, Grade 5 from DTP to MOD on 9 December 1991

Retirement

Mr F A Fitzpatrick, Grade 5 (Chief Statistician) IR on 27 October 1991



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CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Economic Trends



Economic Trends brings together all the main economic indicators. The largest section gives time series and graphs over the last five years or so. It is preceded by details of the latest information and followed by an analysis of indicators in relation to the business cycle over the last 20 years. Other articles comment on and analyse economic statistics.

Economic Trends is the primary publication for the quarterly national accounts and balance of payments articles.

Price £11.00 net

Central Statistical Office publications are published by HMSO. They are obtainable from HMSO bookshops and through booksellers.

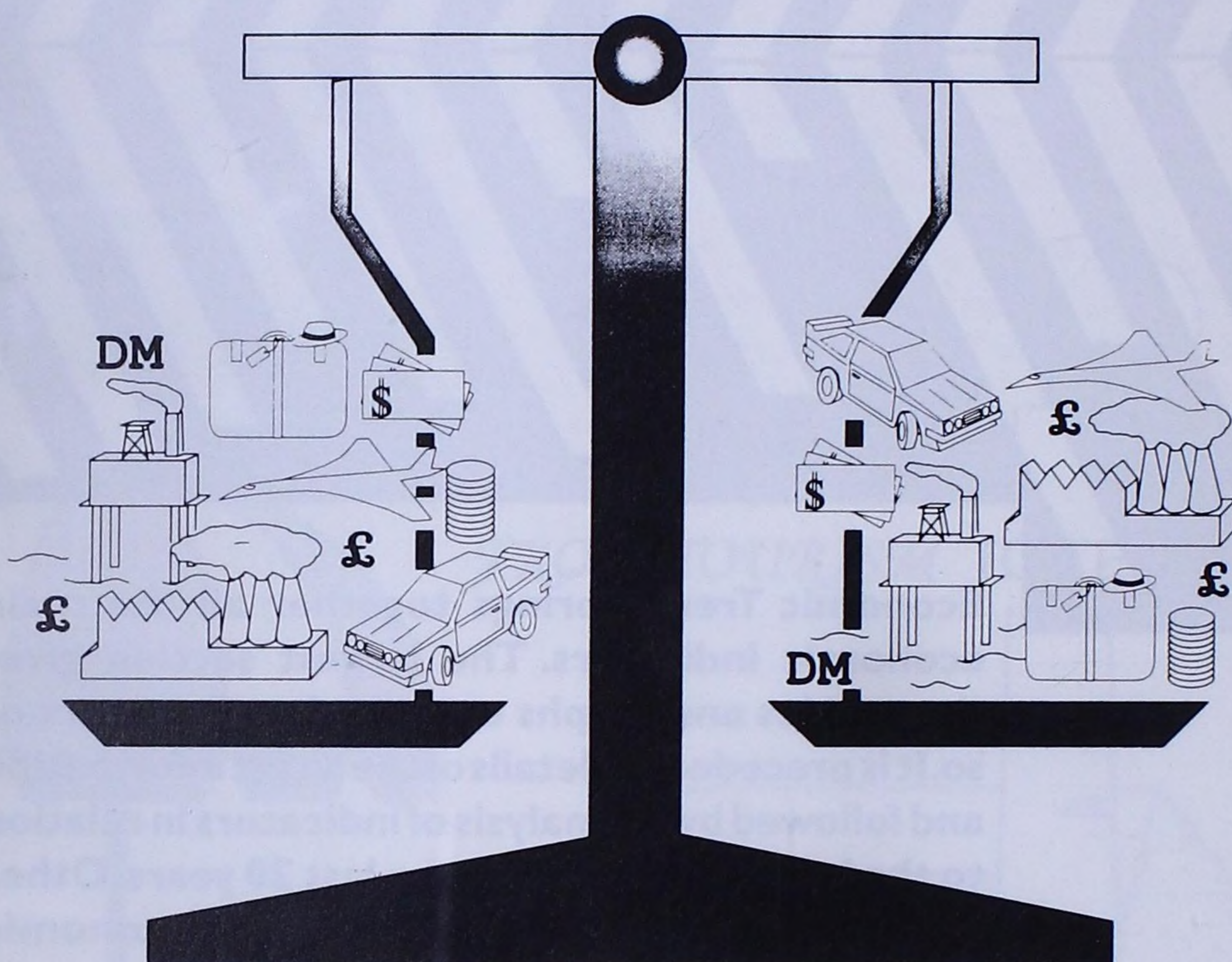
CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

The Pink Book 1991

United Kingdom Balance of Payments

HMSO £11.75 net

ISBN 0 11 620451 6



**What are our total transactions with the rest of the European Community?
What are the United Kingdom's overseas assets and liabilities?**

The answers are all in the CSO Pink Book, *United Kingdom Balance of Payments*.

The Pink Book is the basic reference book for balance of payments statistics. It contains detailed information on visible trade, invisibles and capital transactions as well as sections on specific aspects of the balance of payments.

The Pink Book provides detailed balance of payments data for the last 11 years and summary figures for earlier years as well as full notes and definitions.

**Central Statistical Office publications are published by HMSO
They are obtainable from HMSO bookshops and through booksellers.**

Articles in recent issues of Statistical News

- No 87 November 1989**
Statistical work in the Office of Fair Trading
Financial Statistics in the Bank of England
Statistics in the House of Commons Library
- No 88 Spring 1990**
Public Confidence in the Integrity and validity of Official Statistics
Statistics in the Department of Energy
Recent Trends in Crimes of violence against the person
- Fourth International Roundtable on Business Survey Frames
- No 89 Summer 1990**
Statistical Cartography : A New Approach
- The DTT's Industrial Modelling System
11th Conference of Commonwealth Statisticians
Writing Articles for Publication
- No 90 Autumn 1990**
Statistical work within the Health and Safety Executive
- 1992 Single Market
Scottish Young Persons' Education Statistics
- No 91 Winter 1990**
Scottish Office Statistical Publications
The Scottish Statistical Liaison Committee
Assessing the Provision of Places for the Training of Teachers for Scottish Schools
Digital Boundaries for the 1991 Census of Population in Scotland
Scottish Revaluation Survey
- No 92 Spring 1991**
The First Revision of the European Classification of Economic Activities: NACE REV 1.
Statistical and Research Services in the Northern Ireland Civil Service.
Developments in Statistical Computing in the Home Office
- No 93 Summer 1991**
Regional Drug Misuse Databases
Labour Market Statistics for the 1990's - The 1990 Statistics User's Conference
The CSO Celebrates its 50th Birthday
- No 94 Autumn 1991**
Improvements to Economic Statistics: A Progress Report
General Medical Practitioners' Workload Survey 1989 - 90
The National Food Survey 1940 - 1990
- No 95 Winter 1991**
Central Statistical Office launched as Executive Agency
A Classification of Local Housing Authorities Expenditure Characteristics and Imputation
The Enhancement of the Labour Force Survey in Great Britain
- Computer Assisted Interviewing for the Labour Force Survey
Desk-Top Publishing: Production of Statistical Publications in the Department of the Environment
- Stephen Penneck
David Pennington
Robert Clements
- Sir Jack Hibbert
Eric Price
Lawrence Davidoff
and Lizanne Dowds
John Perry
- Roger Sellwood and
Gurmukh Singh
Frank Kane
Tom Griffin
Tom Griffin
- Peter Thomas and
John Hodgson
Hugh Savill
Jonathon Davidson
- Margaret Horn
Margaret Horn
R A DeMellow
Frank Thomas
Peter Scrimgeour
- Ken Mears
Edgar Jardine
Rodney Taylor
- Marie Richards
Paul Allin
Reg Ward
- David Daniel
Michael Barker
Carolyn Hamilton and
Sheila Dixon
- Sir Jack Hibbert
- Richard Laux
Elaine Chamberlain,
Tony Manners and
Michael Bradley
Tony Manners
- John Gamsworthy and
Stephen Peters

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